NEWS / A2 | BUSINESS / B1 | ACROSS / A8 | ENTERTAINMENT / D1

Charice draws raves, awe, pride in 'Glee'

By Cora Lucas
Entertainment

CHARICE Pempengco's performance in the second season opener of the musical comedy-drama TV series "Glee" yesterday was a bright spot in a whole week of infuriating news, and not just in Philippine entertainment.

Online raves, variations of two very strong senti-

CHARICE A6

Moros want own 'sub-state'

Mindanao power supply critical

Court stops car imports in Cagayan

Ogie's 3 groomsmen: Janno, Bitoy, and P-Noy

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, September 23, 2010 ★★ Vol. 25 / No. 287

OUTSHINING THE STAR Charice Pempengco sings with the show's lead star, Lea Michele (at left), in her first appearance in the 2nd season opener of the TV series "Glee" on Wednesday. "We love you; you make us Filipinos proud," goes one Twitter entry.

Atong No. 1 gambling lord

Sen. Miriam also slams DILG-PNP control of 'jueteng'

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ATONG ANG, a former gambling buddy of deposed President Joseph Estrada, was not on the list of "jueteng" operators submitted by retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz to the Senate on Tuesday.

But it is a curiosity that Ang topped the list of operators of illegal gambling revealed yesterday by Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

In a privilege speech, Santiago identified Ang as No. 1 to four out of five regions.

The others are Danny Sun-ares, Bong Pineda, Aging Unos and Tony Santos. (See list of gambling operators on Page A4.)

Reacting to Santiago's accusations, Ang said he was not involved in jueteng operations.

Santiago delivered her privilege speech a day after Cruz, head of the People's Crusade Against Jueteng, released a list of jueteng operators and beneficiaries showing that Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno and former Philippine National Police Chief Jesus Verzosa were receiving up to P8 million a month in jueteng payoffs.

Santiago placed the annual jueteng receipts at P30 to P36 billion.

Jueteng has thrived in the Philippines because gambling lords have found the winning combination in a tolerant and corrupt Department of Interior

ATONG A6

DATE WITH THE 'OLD GREY LADY' President Aquino is all smiles after an interview with editors of the venerable and great The New York Times in New York City on Tuesday. Mr. Aquino, who is on a seven-day official visit to the United States, and his Cabinet had also been interviewed by Bloomberg and Reuters, according to Malacañang. EPI PHOTO/ZIPPY DAVID/MALACAÑANG PHOTO

Mayor Lim singled out for criminal charges

A FACTFINDING committee has recommended criminal charges against Mayor Alfredo Lim for the bungled hostage rescue, according to the Associated Press (AP), which said it had seen a copy of a part of the panel's report to President Aquino that had not been officially released.

The AP said that Lim was singled out for "ineffective administrative and criminal complaints among eight government and police officials blamed for the Aug. 23 fiasco.

The five-member commission headed by Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said that the seven other officials should not face charges unless a future investigation substantiates them, according to AP.

"As far as Mayor Lim is concerned, he did nothing wrong, and he did only what was right at that time," his spokesperson, Ita

MAYOR A11

Solons laud Puno offer to quit, not to burden Noy

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Alcuin Papa

SENADORS yesterday cheered Interior Secretary Rico Puno for heeding their call to hand in his resignation after vetting the flak for the hostage crisis and the raging controversy over "jueteng," on illegal numbers racket.

Puno's act shows that he has "delicadeza" and is willing to give his friend, President Aquino, a free hand in resolving these issues, said Sen. Francis Escudero.

"This is a good example because it shows that we in government should not hold on to our posts. Whether guilty or not guilty if you are a burden to the President, you must resign," Escudero said at a press conference.

Puno on Wednesday said he would submit a courtesy resignation to the President when the latter returned from the United States.

He was asked at a Senate hearing on Tuesday as one of the

SOLONS A6

Rich detainees may be asked to pay to stay in jail

By Mike Morales

FOR RENT: Jail space.

Detainees may be looking at this sign if the cash-strapped Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) pushes through with its latest novel proposal to solve its budget problem.

Officials are suggesting that

RICH A11

SEAFARERS Rescuers on rubber boats ferry people in this photo taken a year ago in Ortigas Avenue, Cainta, Rizal. The storm had dumped a month of rainfall in six hours. EDDIE MALASTRO

Not me, argues every one on Miriam's list

By Alcuin Papa and Inquirer Southern Luzon

A LAWYER of retired Philippine National Police Director General Jesus Verzosa branded as a "wild accusation" Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago's claim that the PNP chief was getting a 5 percent cut of jueteng proceeds.

"Retired PNP chief Verzosa denies that in the strongest terms. Senator Santiago has long been at loggerheads with [former Interior] Secretary

NOT ME A5

The pain of a hero's mother: Nobody remembers my son

By Kristine L. Alave

LUZ MAGALLANES often wonders if people still remember Maalmar, her 17-year-old son who died a year ago while rescuing victims of Tropical Storm "Ondoy," which brought sudden flood to their community in Quezon City and other neighboring areas.

Her thoughts about Maalmar, who was buried in a mass grave

in Novaliches, and the changes in their life after the storm usually overwhelm at night as the rest of the household sleep.

A newly renovated concrete house has replaced her shanty in the section of Barangay Bagong Silangan, which bore the San Mateo River. Raging waters swallowed houses when Ondoy (International name: Ketsana) struck on Sept. 26, 2009.

The home improvements, made possible by private donors, including the Cabrera

THE PAIN A11

Saving 100 no big deal for 'Jet' judge

By Julie M. Aurelio

FOR SAVING 100 lives during the worst flooding in the metropolis in four decades, the presiding judge of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 83 earned some newspaper space and a ranavan as a sort of Rambo on a Jet Ski.

Judge Rolph Lee is a bit uncomfortable being called an "accidental hero."

Rescuing marooned residents of a Quezon City subdivision flooded by Tropical Storm "Ondoy" seemed to him the most natural thing to do at the time.

SAVING A11

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY: Mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms

Metro Manila	Mostly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Mostly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Puerto Princesa	Mostly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy	Butuan	Partly Cloudy

Complete weather forecast on page A16

Second FRONTPAGE

STL 3D

2pm	1 5 5
5pm	2 4 1 2
9pm	2 4 2

SUERTRES 3D

2pm	4 6 0
5pm	1 7 4
9pm	1 4 2

FOUR DIGIT (Tuesday)

1 9 6 1

MEGA 6/45

3 8 13 24 29 31

P10,946,750.40

6/55 GRAND LOTTO

5 18 36 46 49 50

P172,748,132.40

LOTTO: TRY! Tues 6/42 LOTTO, result to 6/45 PCSO draw

Moros want own 'sub-state'

Driver's license bidding stopped

By Paolo G. Montecillo

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) has suspended the poll for bidding for the production of drivers' licenses to be issued by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) amid complaints that the bidding terms were "tailor-made" in favor one company.

According to a statement issued by the DOTC, Secretary Jose de Jesus instructed the deputy secretary's lawyers and LTO Chief Virginia Torres to review the "terms of reference" (TOR) of the P800-million contract to ensure a "level playing field."

The DOTC chief said he wanted "to open the public bidding to a wide selection of bidders with the best concepts and offers as possible."

Earlier, a local firm, 4E Visual and Lights Systems (4VLS), charged that several provisions in the TOR looked tailor-made to favor a consortium of Appolgens of France, Teppan of Japan and their local partner.

In particular, 4VLS said the kinds of printers the LTO wanted used in the printing of drivers' licenses were monochrome only by Teppan. The LTO wanted these kinds of printers despite the availability of cheaper and better printers made by other companies, it said.

4VLS also criticized the provision that required bidders to have experience in high-security databases and passports in the Philippines. Again this would limit the LTO's qualified bidders to only one supplier which is Appolgens, which primarily supplies the paper for the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The DOTC said it would hammer out new technical specifications, which will lead to a new bidding process.

The LTO, for now, will continue to get its supply from the existing contractor. "This will ensure a steady stream of licenses for those who apply for new ones or for renewal," de Jesus said.

He also emphasized that the new bidding would be governed by utmost transparency, and "shall have no interwhatsoever of wrongdoing"—which is the hallmark of the new Aquino Administration.

DOTC and LTO officials were instructed to specify "performance-based terms and conditions in the contract," which means the specifications must address "the requirements of quality, durability, and functionality."

Pasig River is one giant septic tank

By Gil Cabacungan

PASIG RIVER is now Metro Manila's "poor man's" or septic tank.

This was revealed during the budget hearing for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Senate after Secretary Ramon Paje admitted that only 10 percent of the metropolis waste water goes through a treatment plant with the rest going directly to the Pasig River.

Senator Loren Legarda blamed Pasig River's worsening state to the private concessionaires Manila Water Co. and Maynilad Water for failing to put up sewage treatment plants and throwing their waste water directly to the river. She also noted the numerous metropolitan waterworks and sewerage systems (MWSS) for failing to compel the concessionaires to fulfill their commitments.

Legarda noted that the water concessionaires were expected to put up sewer treatment plants as part of their contracts but they opted to just pay the fines rather than invest for the sewerage treatment plant apparently because it was cheaper.

The DENR has slapped a P28.4 million fine against the MWSS, Manila Water and Maynilad for violation of Republic Act (RA) 9275, or the Clean Water Act which requires them to install and maintain wastewater treatment facilities within five years after this law took effect in 2004.

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE SEPARATIST Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) will propose the creation of a Muslim "sub-state" in Mindanao in when peace talks resume, according to its chief negotiator Mohagher Iqbal.

Iqbal, who will again be leading the MILF negotiating panel, said the MILF will no longer pursue the proposed Bangsamoro jurisdiction that was part of the aborted Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) in the previous Arroyo administration.

"It's not stated in our proposal specifically. But the formulation that we have put up is really for the creation of a sub-state sovereignty," Iqbal told reporters.

"The unitary government is still there but we should have a sub-state. The power of the central government and that of the sub-state would be defined," he added.

Peace talks resumption

President Aquino, who announced in July that he wanted a peace deal with the MILF within his six-year presidency, said the government was ready to resume the talks after the end of the Muslim fasting month on Sept. 10.

He designated a new five-member negotiating panel led by University of the Philippines law dean Sharon Lecaros.

Negotiations broke down in August 2008 after the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional the draft MOA-AD that government negotiators had agreed with the MILF during the Arroyo administration.

Angry over the aborted signing of the MOA-AD, which those opposed to it believed would have meant the creation of a Islamic state in Mindanao, MILF forces launched violent attacks on Christian villages in central Mindanao.

Iqbal said the MILF wanted neither an independent state nor an administrative region like the autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The ARMM, which consists of the provinces of Sumbo, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi and Marawi City, was created as a result of the 1996 peace agreement with the main Muslim insurgency, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

The MILF is a breakaway faction of the MNLF.

Iqbal likened their proposed sub-state to one of the 50 federated states under the United States of America.

"It's not a state but a sub-state .... It does not mean that it would be independent. It just means lesser than independence," he said.

Defining sub-state's powers

"Sub-do not want to call it an [autonomous state] because that has been used in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (which is) an administrative region," he said.

Under the set-up they envision, Iqbal said the proposed Muslim sub-state would exercise all government functions except those on national defense, foreign affairs, currency and postal services which would be exclusively executed by the national government.

"That means that the sub-state would not have its own soldiers but would only have its internal security (forces)," he said.

He did not spell out the exact role of the MILF would be in such a sub-state.

"The MILF would have a role in the transition but in the regional government, it is the Moro people that would run the sub-state," he said.

Iqbal said the negotiations, once resumed, could be over in two years as the only issue left in the agenda is the political settlement.

No schedule has been set for the start of the talks, with Malaysia as the third-party facilitator.

At a peace summit in Cotabato City last Monday, attended by international representatives and major stakeholders in the peace process, Malaysian Ambassador Ibrahim Saad said Kuala Lumpur was committed to pushing forward with the talks.

'Obvious sincerity'

"The sincerity of both sides has been very obvious. What is needed is a political will to solve the problem," Saad said.

Indonesian Ambassador Kristanto Legowo said his country was "very optimistic" that the tripartite review of the 1996 peace agreement with the MNLF would be over by yearend.

Mukaddang, MNLF and the Organization of the Islamic Conference agreed to undertake a thorough review because of misunderstandings about the full implementation of certain transitory provisions of the pact.

Luisita farmers tell SC: Nothing but land

By Marlon Ramos

FARMERS CLAIMING ownership of the vast Hacienda Luisita yesterday asked the Supreme Court to order the redistribution of the 6,453-hectare sugar estate in Tarlac owned by the family of President Aquino.

"This is our final stand," said lawyer Jobert Pahilga, who represents a faction of one of the farmers' cooperative groups in the hacienda, shortly after he and leaders of the group filed the motion for reconsideration at the high court.

"The constant everything that the Supreme Court should know about the farmers' opinion on issues regarding the land distribution issue in Hacienda Luisita," the lawyer said.

The manifestation formally signaled the decision of the farmers to withdraw from the mediation meetings which the high court ordered starting next September as the deadline set against the dispute last month.

The high court created the mediation panel on Aug. 24 in an attempt to broker an amicable agreement between the farmers and Hacienda Luisita Inc. (HLI) management.

Farmers' walkout

The farmers of this particular faction of the Alyansa ng mga Manggagawang Bukid sa Hacienda Luisita (Ambala) walked out twice during the three mediation hearings.

Pahilga claimed the mediators who were supposed to be neutral on "CARP-haters" became effective of the hacienda who, he said, wanted "nothing but land distribution."

In their petition, the Ambala farmers urged the Supreme Court to uphold the decision of the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council declaring illegal the stock distribution option (SDO) agreed by the farmers and HLI in 1988.

They claimed that the SDO "did not improve, but had further thrust the farmworkers deep into the quagmire of poverty."

Days to start getting shorter

By Lala B. Salaverria

STARTING TOMORROW, nights will be longer as the sun approaches the celestial equator, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa).

But for today, day and night would be of nearly equal length, a situation known as the autumnal equinox.

There are two equinoxes in a year, with the other, called the vernal equinox, taking place in March. An equinox usually signals a change in the seasons.

Pagasa, in its September astronomical diary, also said that today, at 7 p.m., the Moon/Natural Liberation Front (MNLF).

Japanese will be 0.9 degrees to the South of Uranus. Both planets would be found at 18 degrees above the eastern horizon.

Early morning risers, another previously classified sky-watchers, could count on seeing Uranus. It'they have good eyesight.

"Few people have naturally keen it will be out the aid of a binocular or telescope," Pagasa noted.

Jupiter and Uranus would be among the background stars of the constellation Pisces.

People would also count on spotting the planets of stars known as the Teapot in the constellation of Sagittarius. It could be observed 40 to 45 degrees above the southern horizon an hour after sunset.

Reyes out as transport party-list rep

By Jocelyn R. Uy

SORRY, BUT you're just not one of them.

The Commission on Elections somehow disqualified former Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes as a nominee of transport party-list group 1-Utak, meaning that the former Cabinet official does not belong to the marginalized and sectoral the group seeks to represent.

If so, all, Reyes was doing his job as a Cabinet official in promoting activities and programs that seemed to advocate for the rights and welfare of the transport sector, according to the 13-page resolution penned by Election Commissioner Rene Sarmiento.

Commissioners Nicodemo Ferrer, Armando Velasco and Elias Yusoph dissented from the resolution.

Reyes' disqualification stripped him of the opportunity to sit at the House of Representatives.

Third nominee Hanne Abesamis will instead represent the party-list group, which is credited to one seat, to Congress. The group's second nominee Vigor Mendoza has earlier resigned citing "professional commitments."

The party-list has claimed to represent all drivers and operators of public-utility vehicles in the country.

Wounded pursuit of the discussions positioned by Reyes, we cannot help but notice that the aforementioned activities that he claimed to be in the furtherance of the advocacy of 1-Utak were all performed by him in his capacity as member of the Cabinet," read the decision.

In asking the election body to drop a motion seeking his disqualification as nominee of the party-list group, Reyes enumerated several activities he undertook to "promote" the group's advocacy.

Party-list reps bloat House membership to 274

THE 15TH CONGRESS is now the biggest chamber since the restoration of democracy over two decades ago.

Three more party-list representatives took their oath Tuesday before Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr., bringing the total membership of the House of Representatives to 274.

Representatives Michael Angelo C. Rivera and Salvador F. Calvahoso of 1Care (First Consistent Alliance for Rural Energy) and Penafrancia Payuyo of Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives were sworn in by the Speaker following their proclamation by the Commission on Elections.

The previous Congress under Speaker Prospero Nograles had about 260 members, while there were about 220 congressmen during the tenure of longtime Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr.

To date, there are now 50 party-list representatives, two more shy of the constitutional limit of 50. The House has 226 members representing the country's legislative districts. Michael Lim Ubac

CASIO
No.1 Japan Camera
EX-Z33
P 4,990
ALCATEL
OT-600
OT-208
P 3,790
P 990
COMPEX

LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION
GRAND CENTRAL Residences
EDSA corner Sultan St.
NEW
Own a unit for as low as ₱9,970 monthly
18 minutes to North EDSA and Ayala Ave.
15 minutes to Ayala and Quezon Avenue
3 minutes to Cubao and Araneta
CITYLAND
We commit, we deliver.
812-2222 687-3333
567-3333 242-1212
www.cityland.net

Technological Institute of the Philippines
Center for Continuing Education
1ST DIPLOMA in OPERATIONS and PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT
Program Modules
Dates
Other Programs

CHEVY CAPTIVA
SIDEKICK
EDITION PLUS
THE SMARTER 7-SEATER
Your trusty 7-seater plus a host of new features which make it the most sophisticated Captiva yet.
TOUCHSCREEN CD MP3/DVD W/ IPOD CABLE & GPS Satnav
REVERSING CAMERA
7-SPOKE 18" ALLOY WHEELS
GENUINE CHEVROLET ITEMBOARDS
LINK UP to CHEVY:
CHEVROLET

CLEANERGY get it
We recognize the power you possess.
The power to care. The power to help. The power to choose.
www.cleanergy.com.ph
Currently available to distribution utilities and directly connected industries.
AboitizPower
A Better Future

Recalled milk products still safe for consumption–DOH

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE TWO milk products earlier ordered to be taken out from store shelves are safe for human consumption, the Department of Health (DOH) announced yesterday.

Health Secretary Enrique Ona said no safety issues were involved in the recall of two products manufactured by Mead Johnson Nutrition Philippines (now) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

"The milks are still fit for consumption, ... the order of withdrawal was made in connection with the Libel-cum1 for content in the two milk products," Ona told reporters in press briefing yesterday.

Earlier, the FDA said Sanggay Jr. ace Milk Drink Powder Vanilla Flavor and Alacta-grow Bbo Trio Milk Supplement failed to comply with existing standards for fat-level content required for all milk products intended for young children.

But the health executive yesterday said consumers who had bought the two milk products prior the FDA order need not return or dispose of them as they were safe for consumption.

₱1.3B for river rehab spent in polls, says Drilon

By Christian V. Esguerra

A FORTUNATE group of rivers located in eight provinces in Luzon and the Visayas received a whopping ₱1.3 billion for rehabilitation from the past administration.

Underscoring the amount spent for "dredging and dredging" supposedly ended up being used for the May elections this year, according to Sen. Franklin Drilon, chairman of the Senate committee.

"To me, this was clearly used in the elections," he said in a press conference after the committee hearing on the proposed 2011 budget of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Asked if he had evidence to support the allegation, he replied: "The circumstantial evidence is clear is there. There is reason to believe that it was not used for the purpose intended."

Drilon pointed out that the entire amount was released in just eight days, from Feb. 16 to 26 this year, or some three months before the elections. He said the amount was contained in separate special allotment release orders.

Among the eight provinces that benefited from what the senator described as "unusual releases" was Pampanga, home province of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Pampanga received a total of ₱62.3 million for the rehabilitation of seven rivers alone. The fund for Pampanga was actually the smallest among the eight provinces, according to the "Summary of Releases by Congressional Initiatives" he [illegible].

The other provinces were Bataan (₱371 million), Aklan (₱302 million), Tacloban City in Leyte (₱100 million), Antique (₱149 million), Biliran (₱120 million), Roxas City in Capiz (₱80 million), Bacolod City in Negros Occ (₱80 million), and Guimaras (₱60 million).

A total of 78 rivers in these eight provinces reportedly benefited from the fund release, according to the document made available by Drilon.

"My will go deeper into this," he said. "My will find out who are responsible for this."

Because of the ₱1.3-billion fund release, the senator said his committee would closely monitor the planned dredging of the Laguna Lake, which was allowed ₱1.6.1 billion

Atong: My gambling operations are 'legal'

By Christian V. Esguerra

FORMER GAMBLING consultant Charlie "Atong" Ang yesterday denied Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago's allegation that he was involved in "jueteng" operations.

In a statement sent to the Inquirer, Ang claimed he was "never involved in any illegal numbers racket, especially jueteng." He maintained that the type of gambling he was operating—jai alai—was "legal."

Ang also dismissed the allegation that he was behind the latest exposé of retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz that at least 12 personalities, led by Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno, were involved in jueteng.

He described it as "an insult to the intelligence and wisdom of the good bishop."

More than two weeks ago, Cruz admitted that Ang had visited him in his office in the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines in Manila to supposedly throw his support behind the prelate's campaign against jueteng.

But the 75-year-old Cruz said he saw through Ang's motive, which was ostensibly to kill jueteng so his jai-alai business would flourish.

Why about motive

"That was his intention and I was very close to me," the archbishop told the Inquirer. "He was about his motivation. My campaign is against all forms of gambling."

In a previous interview, Ang said he had come to the archbishop only to tackle the so-called tax and cuts of the jueteng businesses.

He said he was in a position to do so because he once acted as runner in one in the Estrada administration through a game called "Bingo 2-Ball."

In the statement, Ang said he had "explained to the good bishop the mechanics of jueteng, small town lottery, jai alai, horsing, hot one, sweepstakes and other forms of legal and illegal gambling operations."

"This conversation has enlightened the bishop with the operations of the illegal numbers game commonly known as jueteng with the ins and outs of the numbers game," he said.

Not me, argues every one on Miriam's list

Pamagat Al

[Illegible] Puno and has always been her favorite target of attack. The retired PNP chief has no personal issues against her (Santiago) and is ready and able to face any charge that the senator may file in court should evidence warrant it," said Benjamin Bolus Icasiano.

Quezon

For his part, Eddie Gonzales claimed he was wrongfully tagged by Santiago.

"I'm not involved in any illegal gambling operation," Gonzales told **the Inquirer in a phone interview.**

He added: "As far as I'm concerned, the only legitimate gaming corporation in Quezon is Pacsumo Corp., which was authorized by the PCSO (Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office)."

Laguna

Ramon Perea, who owns the franchise of Small Town Lottery (STL) in Laguna, maintained that his operations were "legal."

Perea, who expressed shock at the P1.4 million daily take in the province from STL reported by Santiago.

"How could that be? STL is generating very much less than that," he said. But he refused to provide the daily revenues from STL in the province.

Perea denied that he was the "Don Ramon" referred to in Santiago's list. "There is this another Don Ramon linked to jueteng operations but in Manila. I'm still finding out who that is," he said.

In Laguna, however, sources from the PNP and local executives refer to Perea as "Don Ramon."

On Santiago's list, Don Ramon was named earlier as a gambling operator—in the province of Laguna and Metro Cavite[illegible].

"I have nothing to do with the operations of STL in Mindoro," Perea said.

A source, who requested anonymity, said a certain Tony Ramos was the "national coordinator" of jueteng collections from Laguna. Ramos was on Santiago's list.

The source said Ramos was "collecting" from jueteng operations in the towns of Bay, Alaminos, Sta. Cruz, Pila, Pagsanjan, Pila, Cavinti, Lumban, Magdalena, Majayjay, Liliw and Calauan.

He would then deliver the monthly jueteng payoff of P2 million to Ventura and some officials in the Department of Interior and Local Government, National Bureau of Investigation and Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, the source said.

"The request of [retired] Archbishop Cruz was wrong. It [amount] was too small; P1 million a month is just from Laguna," the source added.

The source said Ramos also delivered the monthly payoff of P1.8 million to Laguna Gov. E.R. Ejercito and P1 million each to the regional and provincial police directors.

Batangas

Lawyer Adolfo Glorre, who spoke in behalf of businessman Cirone Reyes, denied the latter had a hand in the proliferation of jueteng in Batangas.

"Governor [Armando] Sanchez has long been dead. Mr. Cirone Reyes [on the other hand] is no longer part of the board nor an officer of BETS since July. He has nothing to do with STL anymore," Glorre said.

BETS refers to Batangas Enhanced Technology Systems Inc., the corporation that owns the franchise of STL in the province.

"In fact [during the time when Reyes operated BETS], all the operations were legal that we were reordinating with the law enforcers to assist and sustain jueteng operations in order to generate more **revenue from STL," Glorre said.**

Mr, however, declined to elaborate on why Reyes sold his shares to the Sanchezes and why he replaced the latter on the board.

"It is less than Mr. Reyes answer these questions," Glorre said.

Sources, privy to the board, earlier said Reyes was the one who handed out shares of Sanchez and made sure the operations following the death of the official.

Armando Castillo, the best friend of Sanchez and operations manager of STL on Batangas, said he was unable to reach Santiago's spox[illegible].

He said the perspective of the local government was different from the local government. "Di ba pagsa [Doña Hspa. Alberto Sapaga, Batangas police director] even said that Governor [Sanchez] was receptive [interested in jueteng since he was governor," Mich reports **from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Marvyn Ortiz Landoy and Mariane Glass, Inquirer Southern Luzon**

ATONG ANG, THE EXPLAINER He explained the mechanics of "jueteng" and other illegal numbers games to Archbishop Cruz.

PARTY AS EVER. Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago gestures during her privilege speech on "jueteng" at the Senate on Wednesday.

Looking for 1% of P30B

INTERIOR Undersecretary Rico E. Puno said that like Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, he was on the lookout for the 1 percent of the P30 billion in annual "jueteng" revenues allegedly given to officials of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Philippine National Police.

"If she is looking for that 1 percent, I am also looking for that 1 percent. I'd like to know where that percentage came from and how it is distributed," Puno said.

He said he wanted to know for the benefit of DILG efforts to investigate the illegal numbers racket.

But Puno said he did not have Santiago's privilege speech.

The spokesperson of the Philippine National Police, Senior Supt. Agripino Cruz, said the PNP would seek for a copy of Santiago's speech to conduct its own investigation.

"We will investigate these allegations, if she will be gracious enough to furnish us a copy. If the evidence warrants it, we will file the appropriate charges," Cruz said.

KILL ARTHRITIS IN 5 MINUTES
www.forexinvest.net

SLIMMERS WORLD
BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!
Sexy in jeans with a Great Skin.
I Lost 44 lbs.!
Won the Great Body Contest.
Christine Hermoso
BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 15 FREE!
PLUS! Personal Training and all the Latest Aerobics!
SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!
CORE POWER + BIOMETRICS with GREAT SKIN
I Lost 51 lbs.!
Runner-Up in the Great Body Contest.
Cedric Vladimir Dy
BEFORE
"All our full programmes are guaranteed!"
CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE CONSULTATION!!
NO MONTHLY DUES ON LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!
NO JOINING FEES!
CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%
MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT ALL CENTERS
SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!
Diamond Facial
FACIAL WITH DIAMOND ULTRAPEEL for men & women to give you a flawless skin.
CALL OUR ONE - STOP SUPER CENTERS FOR FITNESS, SKIN, BODY AND FACE.
FITNESS HOTLINE: 536-3333
SKIN HOTLINE: 525-8771
MOBILE NUMBER: 091- SLIMMERS (7546637)
www.slimmersworld.com.ph * inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

Atong No. 1 gambling lord

From page A1

and Local Government (DILG) and the Philippine National Police (PNP), his source said.

"The equation [DILG + PNP = fronting" means that illegal jueteng consists of a conspiracy between the interior secretary and the police chief. Then we the prime beneficiaries and all the protectors of jueteng," the said.

"If we as a people do not want murderers form our midst, someday the Philippine president will be elected on the basis of who gives the biggest payola," Bonifacio," said Santiago, who took a break from her confinement leave, like is suffering from hypertension.

P150 million each

Santiago claimed that the interior secretary and the PNP chief get to divide P300 million (1 percent of the yearly jueteng receipts) every year without the participation of the President.

"In a corrupt situation, all the participants are in for the same incentive and the PNP chief is gave into each other's eyes, and they fall in love so much so that you look more than by two will not that there are personages involved, so all of you lovingly at each other in an orgy of mutual admiration and mutual congratulation," Santiago said.

"Why become enemies when you can share from the P150 million that they [PNP and DILG chiefs] get every year? The truth is our schools must be strong, because they should not give to the PNP chief or DILG chief who don't have to do anything and they can even be blackmailed but still get P300 million a year," she said.

Campaign contributions

Under the cashiers' "political playbook," they follow closely the most likely winners in the election before commencing their resources to secure the coldcase favorite candidate's loyalty according to the senator.

"The jueteng lords then come to [the] their blushing mea as DILG based who immediately gets his or her PNP chief to form the protect Juanita for jueteng to flourish," she added.

"This is managed corruption. And these two merchants of poverty operate with impunity until the next presidential election."

Santiago said that the "head of the jueteng lords" could make the President look like the other way by making him or her dependent on their support like when the Chief Executive was under threat of a coup d'etat or impeachment in Congress.

Santiago used the photos of Senator Senator Interior Secretary Rolando Puno and Director Undersecretary Rico Puno as he'd been their presentation.

"The DILG and PNP chief not only make the President "hostage to jueteng money" they also buy the loyalty of police rank and file by augmenting their incomes with jueteng money," Santiago said.

Legalization

Santiago said the government must find two choices in resolving jueteng...either enforce the law by force to imposing harsher penalties and going after the jueteng lords and protectors either from the gamblers or make it legal by amending the Penal Code to count it cheating in jueteng and the dishonesty of its participants, and get the revenues from jueteng promoters and players.

Santiago likened the government's fight against jueteng to the US attempt during the Prohibition era when liquor [bootleg] was on the market. She suggested a ban on the manufacture, sale or transportation of alcoholic beverages, with bootlegger like Al Capone going to prison.

Santiago noted that just like the Prohibition, the government's engineering master had led to the government criminal conspiracy between the interior secretary and the PNP chief and allowed jueteng operators to determine winners based on their ranks from illicit, untaxed wealth.

Champion vanquished

The government claims is breeding corruption, that vanquished any champion of law enforcement, like Napoles, and is pushing a clear violation of the laws, or legalize jueteng," the senator said.

"If all else fails, then as last resource we have to consider the proposal to legalize jueteng and declare an amnesty period for declaring as income the legalize the revenue by paying a legalization fee to the government, and by paying enforcement taxes that shall be treated as analogous of internal revenue allotments," she said.

Why STL talk

Santiago said the government's attempt to provide an infrastructure, the Small Town Lottery, had failed because only 18 to 30 percent of the earnings were declared with the rest replaced all to jueteng.

In her speech, Santiago further based juicy details about the small dollies in jueteng cricket.

Santiago said jueteng operators were spending 10 percent of the P150 billion in annual revenues on operating expenses—1 percent for the cabo, 18 percent for the collectors and 22 percent for management.

Protection money

Based on her source who was not identified for security reasons, Santiago said the "protection money" was distributed as follows:

• The 1st percent goes to the DILG-PNP syndicate composed of the secretary and his executive, the police chief, and head of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

• The 2nd percent goes to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation Office which is composed of its chair, general manager, board directors, legal department, Bureau of Internal Revenue (including the payolees).

• Our 3rd percent to the syndicate of the customs and Immigration Bureau, the intelligence officer and inside.

• Three percent to the provincial governorship syndicate of the governor, vice governor and provincial board members.

• One percent to the PNP provincial director.

• A fifth of one percent (0.2) to the provincial director of the National Bureau of Investigation.

• One percent to the syndicate of the DND regional director and Regional Mobile Group.

• Five percent to the municipal syndicate made up of the mayor, vice mayor and city council members.

• Two percent to the congressman; and

• One percent to the local chief of police.

Santiago said she was collecting more data from her informants and hoped that the might come up with a second part in her exposé.

The Operators, Regions I to 5

Area	Date Active	Jueteng Operator	Number Cases
REGION I			
Ilocos Norte	PDR	Governor Singson	1-37
Ilocos Sur	PDR	Governor Singson	1-37
Abra	PROCEED	Governor Singson	1-37
La Union	PROCEED	Congressman Singson	1-37
Pangasinan	PDR	1st Jinkaby / Boy Bata	1-37
REGION II			
Nueva Vizcaya	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Cagayan	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Quirino	PROCEED	D. Solano	1-37
Isabela	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Batanes	PI 3rd	Hi-Nano	1-37
REGION III			
Aurora	None		
Nueva Ecija	PI 3rd	Bong Pineda (Cpt. PDR)	101, 21-40
Bataan	PDR	Bong Pineda (Cpt. PDR)	101, 21-40
Tarlac	PI 3rd	Hi-Nano (Cpt. No pun)	101, 21-40
Pampanga	PDR	Bong Pineda (Cpt. PDR)	1-37
Zambales	PI 3rd	Cabuna Delos Santos (Cpt. PDR)	1-37
Olongapo	PI 3rd	Agingi Lee (Cpt. PDR)	1-37
Angeles City	PI 3rd	Bong Pineda (Mayor PI 3rd)	1-37
Bataan	PDR	Bong Pineda (Cpt. PDR)	101,
REGION IV-A			
Cavite	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Laguna	PI 3rd	Dan Ramos/Bayot Arganza/Pineda	101,
Batangas	PI 3rd	Families: Dimacuha-Reyes	101,
Quezon	PI 3rd	Delos Santos	101,
Rizal	PI 3rd	Elmo Nepomuceno / Tony Sarino	1-37
REGION IV-B			
Mindoro Occidental	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Mindoro Oriental	PI 3rd	Dan Ramos / Santiago	101,
Marinduque		No Name	Inactive
Romblon		No Name	Inactive
Palawan		No Name	Inactive
REGION V			
Camarines Norte	PI 3rd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Camarines Sur	PDR	Bong Pineda	1-37
Albay	PI 2nd	Atong Ang (Double-U)	Without
Sorsogon	PDR	Bong Pineda	1-37
Masbate		No Name	Inactive
Catanduanes		No Name	Inactive

Charice draws raves, awe, pride in 'Glee'

From page A1

ments—pride and awe—immediately stopped Twitter and Facebook cites: "Brilliant!" "Absolute you, you make us Filipinos proud."

The single episode, of course, could well open Hollywood's doors wider for the young Filipina star. Oprah Winfrey tagged "the most talented girl in the world."

But that was the last thing on the minds of Gleeks (geeky who were "Glee") while they were glued to the tube at 4 p.m. yesterday to watch the step-off and "cat fight" between the prettiest Puno and the show's head star, Jennifer Lopez.

Charice's character initially came off as an unassuming, very shy Filipina exchange student (supposedly named Jacqueline Cruz) who spotted a pair of big nerdy glasses. She soon ruffled in a threat to the other singing characters when she chronicled her prom-night preparations—first in a lush, room confrontation with Lea Michele's character, Rachel, and later, in her own, in the final scene of the episode, she might show off her shoe.

Outshines star

The 18-year-old small outdoor Los Michele in the earlier sequences, where they performed Lady Gaga and Beyonce's dance duet, "Telephone." (A Twitter post boasted, "Charice just schooled Diva Michele!") Her "audition" performances could be more compelling than Beyonce's popular rendition of the piece, "Upset," in the season's 10 episodes.

Charice had been worried about how her performance would be received. She said on her self when she attended the season opener's premiere screening at the Paramount Theater in Los Angeles last Monday ago, "Breakdancer go also [I'm getting the jitters]," she told Inquirer Los Angeles correspondent Ruben Regalado.

Charice has been filming the series for two months, and she expects a few more months of work to complete her guest appearance in the show this season.

More face-offs

More face-offs are expected in succeeding episodes as Jennifer Lopez's character Jane Santos Peres Dieckhaus' next glee club, Vocal Adrenaline, is on other school. Her casting line in episode 1: "I could have stayed here but Rachel would have made me like a living hell."

Santos, Jane's character, another flashed, unnerved as she tests by the singing newbie, concedes that Sunshine Corazon "has a remarkable voice." Off-screen, Jen Michele was earlier quoted as being awed by Charice's powerful vocals.

"Glee" was created by Ryan Murphy, who was quoted in an interview last month as saying, "Charice sang for us and I just knew I had to create a special role for her."

The series, which debuted in the Philippines in May last year, combines comedy, music, dance and drama in a show about a group of misfits aspiring to win the National Glee Club Competition.

Everyone's season opener heavily loaded with controversy, shows a typical day in the School William McKinley High School in Lima, Ohio. It picks up where the last episode left off, with the New Directions winning for the national competition again. To beat the rival glee club, New Directions sets off to recruit new members.

"Glee" also stars Heather Morris, Dot Lynch, Cory Monteith, Amber Riley, Dian Colfer, Kevin McHale, Jenna Ushkowitz, Mark Salling and Dianna Agron.

Joining the cast as new regulars are cheerleader Brittany and Santana played by Heather Morris and Naya Rivera and music lady football coach Jessica Sylvester played by Jayma Mays. Jonathan Groff is reportedly set to match Jane Lynch.

Based celebrities to look forward to this season are Kristen Bachus, Brittany Spears and John Stamos. Stamos' first to look out for is Jack TV and BTC's "Glee Off to Hollywood" Filipino winner Hazel Stills de la Cruz, who has landed a walk-on role.

Solons laud Puno offer to quit, so as not to burden President Noy

From page A1

less "ultimate recipients" of jueteng based on a list of jueteng operators and recipients of payoffs provided by retired Duguegato Ligaya Salvador alias "Cora."

Puno said he would meet with Sh. Aquino and reiterate an offer to tender early resignation.

"Of course, my statement [on jueteng] was addressed to the President and from anyone. I see nothing anything that is required," he said.

Asked if he would submit a voluntary and courtesy resignation to spare the President any more embarrassment, Puno said: "Maybe when he comes back [I will submit the letter]," Puno said.

Curanding surprised

In Malacañang, Commission on Human Development Secretary Ricky Curanding said he was "personally a bit surprised" [that Puno's decision but said he would defer any comment until he had spoken to the beleaguered interior undersecretary.

Curanding was reported last night to inform the President about Puno's offer to resign.

Sen. Vicente Sotto III said he was all praises for Puno's action considering that this would be a big relief for the President.

Sotto said Puno's resignation should erase or reallocate in the Aquino administration's fight against jueteng.

"We are confident that with a new administration, with no ties to jueteng, we can finally stamp out the illegal numbers game," Sotto said.

The senator noted that the previous administration's links alleged jueteng lord Bong Pineda "are hampered its efforts to curb jueteng.

Face consequences

Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano said that Puno would still face the consequences of his acts as an executive in office.

"Who resigns only once? He should have resigned before the BSC [Incident Investigation and Review Committee that looked into the botched hostage rescue] finished its probe and before Bishop Oscar Lona revealed his list of jueteng protectors with his name on it," Cayetano said.

Sen. Miguel Zubiri said that Puno should take on-camp further and resign immediately rather than wait for the end of his term.

Sandra Cam, a former jueteng whistle-blower, said Puno should quit.

"Undersecretary Puno, I think this is the right time for you to resign. Give the good Lord Almighty credit for your service after a hearing on the proposed Philippine Witness Protection Act in the Senate.

Trip to Vietnam

Puno said he would be attending an Interpol senior officials meeting for transnational crime" in Vietnam and would be back by the first week of October.

He said he first offered to resign when the Aquino administration drew flak for the bungled Manila hostage rescue in August. Puth that resulted in the deaths of eight tourists from Hong Kong.

After the botched rescue, it was rumored that Puno was in charge of police matters at the Department of Interior and Local Government.

"I have told him (Mr. Aquino) that if I am a burden to your administration, I am ready to leave," Puno said.

He again denied charges that he received jueteng payoffs and expressed frustration at his name being dragged into the ill-reputed numbers racket.

Family burning

Puno said the accusations were hurting his family. "Of course, I feel a little bad. To me, it's just part of the job. But when you look at my brother, my family, you see that they are all being affected and that is the unfortunate part.

Puno's lawyer and executive assistant, Genaro-Anne Beltran, said they were studying the possibility of studying legal charges against his client's accusers.

But relatives they would file any charges would depend on Puno, Beltran said.

The interior undersecretary said the charges were part of a "demolition job" after he started moves to quash the illegal numbers racket when he came on office two months ago.

"It is evident that the people who will be affected by our efforts to fight the illegal numbers game have launched a dramatic job against me. It is likely that they had deliberately sicked Archbishop Cruz by leaking him false and hearsay information," Puno said, recalling from a prepared statement.

Privacy wise

A lawyer of retired Philippine National Police Director General Eliseo Dela Rosa also said the allegations against his client was also part of a demolition job.

Along with Puno, Vicente was named as an official who was allegedly receiving between P1 million and P3 million a month in jueteng payola.

"This is a power war between jueteng lords and those terrorized underlording jueteng," said Bonifacio de los Santos.

De los Santos, himself a former police officer, said the real motive of jueteng was "not a simple case of police action.

"Strong political will is needed, not just the police. You should know that," he said.

Dela Santos also said Senators were in Singapore on an invitation from the Singapore embassy. He is due to conduct an "exit call" to his regional counterparts before coming home. "General Verzosa won't see anyone and he will leave the country agonizing."

Fire commanders

On his return from the United States, the President's first order of the day should be to fire police provincial commanders and assigned provincial involved in jueteng, said Senator Ping Lacson, yesterday in radio.

Lacson said the jueteng scandal problem is a province if there are clearance from the provincial and provincial commander.

"If the President is serious, by the time he arrives from the US, he should fire those provincial commanders and those local government who are involved. You see there won't be any jueteng in six months," he said.

With reports from Christine F. Reganon, TJ Burgonio and Christina O. Avendaño

No more junkets for DOT friends

By Leila B. Salaverria

THERE will be no more free trips for non-government personnel from the Department of Tourism, according to the Commission on Audit, after it was revealed that the DOT had spent more than P120 million in "executive and assessment" foreign and local travels in 2009.

Those expenses were incurred for the travel of congressional employees, two sponsors of government officials; tour operators; local and foreign media; and the host, director and two contestants of the defunct reality-talent show "Showcase," a COA report stated.

The travel expenses were broken down as follows: P119.746 million for familiarization tour programs for foreign and local tourists; P5.035 million for employees of Congress; and P1.199 million for non-government employees.

The P1.199 million went to two business class tickets to San Francisco of the TV host and the director of "Showcase"; round trip tickets for two "Showcase" contestants from Texas; air tickets for two sponsors of government officials for a trip to Japan, Switzerland and Israel; and the airfare of a Filipino youth participant to the World Youth Day in Belgium.

No names

The report did not name the individuals who received the free trips. But the main host of "Showcase," Willie Revillame, reportedly used to be a DOT endorser.

"The travel passes are not government employees and therefore their travel expenses are not covered by the provision of EO 248, as amended, thus, expenses incurred and paid for by the government are irregular and unconscionable," the COA said.

EO 248 outlines the rules and regulations governing the allowances for official local and foreign travels of government personnel.

While it said it understood that the DOT needed to use its funds to promote tourism, the tourism department is not allowed to pay for the travel expenses of non-DOT employees, the COA said.

'Easily minimized'

The DOT could also have saved scarce government resources if it had limited to the "barest minimum" the attendance of congressional officials and employees in invitations and twin and escorts, the audit body said.

According to the COA report, the DOT was allotted P5 million through a congressional insertion in the budget. The money was to fund the travel of the congressional Office of the Legislative Liaison Services to promote tourism fairs.

The reason given for the congressional employees' trips was to help them have a "profound knowledge and in-depth understanding" of the DOT's operations, particularly in relation to funds that the DOT requests for international events.

It was also found that there were events where more than two congressional representatives attended, hence the additional expense.

The bulk of the questioned travel expenses amounting to P1,01,74[illegible]40 million was used for international travel and familiarization tour programs for foreign travel agents, tour operators, film operators, media personnel, airline execs, sports enthusiasts and local media.

Fam tours

The travel and familiarization tour programs, which are inclusive of airfare, hotel accommodations, meals and incidental expenses, are part of the DOT's marketing strategy to invite foreign travel operators and local and foreign media so they can experience the best of Philippine tourism.

FACTORY SALE

Ride to Enjoy ... Ride to Go Green
e-bike EXCEED
PHP 24,900
ORDER NOW!
(02) 661-4108

INDUSTRIAL HI-PRESSURE CLEANERS
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INC.

TOSHIBA
Leading Innovation >>>
Windows®. Life without Walls™.
Toshiba recommends Windows 7
25 Years Notebook
Out of the blue.
Satellite L645
Introducing the Blue Satellite L645 Exclusive Passion Blue Edition. Designed by Technology to Excite
Satellite L645-10SGUBL
P23,749.50
FREE Notebook Bag
Satellite L645-10SGU/12GHU/01900UB
P23,582.50
FREE Notebook Bag
866-6275
www.pc.toshiba-asia.com/promotions
Talk-2-Toshiba
Notebook PC
DESIGNED BY TECHNOLOGY
intel CORE
Faster. Smarter.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, September 23, 2010
25th Week in Ordinary Time
The Scriptures

1st Reading: Ezra 1:1-6
Gospel: Lk 8:1-3

Jesus went about preaching and bringing the glad news of the kingdom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza; Susanna; and many others who provided for them out of their resources.

Commentary:

When Herod, ruler of Galilee, heard of all the things that were happening, he was very confused. (v. 9)

Even a threatened by restless human problems can't be distracted by fear.

Goodness has a power of its own in the hearts and consciences souls in a kind of living harvest that often shows up in surprises.

Glossary: Zerubbabel, Governor, Ezra, Jeshua, Jerusalem, Cyrus, Lk 8:1-3, Mt 4:18-22, Mk 1:16-20, Mt 9:9, Mk 2:14, Lk 5:27-28, Mt 27:55-56, Mk 15:40-41, Lk 23:49, Mt 27:61, Mk 15:47, Lk 23:55, Mt 28:1, Mk 16:1, Lk 24:10, Jn 20:1, Jn 20:18, Acts 1:14, Rom 16:6, Rom 16:12, Gal 4:19, Phil 4:3, Rev 12:1-6, Rev 12:13-17, Rev 19:7-8, Rev 21:2, Rev 21:9-10, Rev 22:17, Rev 22:20, Rev 22:21, Rev 22:22, Rev 22:23, Rev 22:24, Rev 22:25, Rev 22:26, Rev 22:27, Rev 22:28, Rev 22:29, Rev 22:30, Rev 22:31, Rev 22:32, Rev 22:33, Rev 22:34, Rev 22:35, Rev 22:36, Rev 22:37, Rev 22:38, Rev 22:39, Rev

Antoinette Taus Bergonia

Across the NATION

Court stops car imports in Cagayan

TUGUEGARAO CITY—A regional trial court in Aparri town affirmed on Monday the ban on the importation, registration and distribution of second-hand vehicles at Port Irene in Santa Ana, Cagayan.

Judge Oscar Estebar ended the petition for injunction filed by a motor-car industry group and upheld Executive Order No. 156 issued in 2002 by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to control car imports.

Smuggling haven?

Controversy soon hounded the Cagayan Special Economic Zone and Freeport, which operates Port Irene, after the Automotive Chamber of Commerce (Autocham) claimed that the freeport has become a smugglers' haven.

Officials of the Cagayan government and the freeport authority have disputed the Autocham's allegations.

Estebar, however, clarified that his ruling addressed only the injunction appeal made by the Association of Refurbishing Businesses in Cagayan (Arbic) in 2008.

"It still does not answer the legal ground, at the link of it, from which the said executive order was issued. But no importation, no conversion and rebuilding nor any other circumstance activity within the car-rebuilding industry is allowed. It's, nothing at all," Estebar said in his decision.

Court maneuver

Arbic had asked the courts to extend a temporary restraining order that was issued by the court in 2008, which would have allowed its members to continue their trade of importing used, mostly right-hand drive vehicles, converting them and selling them.

The group expressed disappointment the decision. "We have not heard at the moment in deference to the 10-day report decision, but we could still seek judicial remedies from the higher courts," Jessy Hernar, Arbic president, said in a telephone interview.

Monroe said the recent decision had affected the economy. The refurbishing industry in Cagayan's economic zone is

"The immediate impact here is, of course, murdering 1,500 people jobless, among them Ga. gayan residents who are direct ... workers, "he said.

Ripple effect

He said employees of downstream companies, subcontractors and suppliers would suffer from the decision when they start losing customers.

Monroe also warned governments to expect a dip in taxes.

He said Arbic's lawyers are studying whether to file a motion for reconsideration or to appeal the ruling directly to the Court of Appeals.

"Let us see what we can do [about] this matter. We will do [our] best ... so at least help workers maintain their jobs and [so our for them] go hungry and mothers know that the [vehicle is approaching]," Picano said.

Annemarie Perez, administrator of the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority, said he would keep the ban on imported vehicles unless government changed the policy governing foreign vehicles.

Gate pass

RO. 156 prohibits government from issuing gate passes governing the entry and exit of imported vehicles from the freeport without a gate pass, cars shipped through the freeport cannot be registered nor allowed to be brought out.

Mechanisms are manufacturers in the country have complained of the entry of used vehicles, saying these were mostly junk. —Tarra Quismorio Jr. Inquirer Northern Luzon

DENR releases 10 rescued 'lawin' back into habitat

LUCENA CITY—Environment officials released into the wild 10 Philippine Hawk-eagles or lawin, that had been kept as an animal menace center in Quezon City following their rescue.

Antero Tagbig, project leader of the Philippine raptors conservation program, said the birds of prey, considered endangered, came from the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) menace center in Quezon City, PAWB is attached to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Tagbig said the birds have been turned over to PAWB by private citizens.

He said the birds were released into Mt. Banahaw because it was a protected area and a natural habitat for them.

The Biodiversity Kite (Malharnet indus) feeds on dead animals, insects and fish. They occupy low cave nests, ground or tree tops to search for prey.

To ensure their protection, Tagbig appealed to villagers in Mt. Banahaw to help in preserving the birds of prey.

"Our wildlife helps in maintaining a balanced ecosystem," he said.

Hunting, or harming, wildlife is a punishable under the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, or Republic Act No. 9147.

ONE OF the threatening Kites ["lawin"] released back into the wild in Mt. Banahaw.

Broadcast men protest sacking by radio network

BAMBO CITY—Broadcast journalists here on Tuesday rallied against what they claimed to be continuing repression by the management of the Radyo Mo Nationwide (Radio Mindanao Network) against its workers.

The broadcast journalists said the latest casualty of RMN's repressive rules were Jessie Candida and Elgin Damasco.

Earlier, RMN station manager Mario Maximo Iribe Yee lack of trust and confidence."

Solis' dismissal came in the wake of RMN (DZDC)'s ousting ratings and increasing sales here, the group said.

Candida, program director and Damasco, news director, took over Iribe' program "Straight to the Point."

The workers' rumble with RMN, the group claimed, assisted when Candida and Damasco discussed Solis' dismissal on air.

"There were inquiries (from listeners) and so we have to explain why Solis was terminated," Damasco said.

He said Charlie Cansoy, one of the owners of the network, "got angry and told me I thought I can count on you but I was wrong."

Damasco said RMN then asked them to resign, along with broadcaster Alex Baldano.

He said they were offered separation pay.

Solis said his off-air with RMN management started during the election period when he was asked to criticize then presidential candidate Benigno Aquino III in favor of rival Manny Villar.

He said Sky Engaging, RMN assistant vice president for operations, was the one who relayed the instruction to him.

"I admit I defied an order to criticize a presidential candidate and it all stemmed there," he said.

Solis said the Canoys had been supportive of Villar's candidacy.

Solis said he was initially suspended before given his walking papers.

"I was dismissed because they said I lost their trust and confidence," Solis said during the rally held in front of the RMN station here.

RMN management separately said Solis' dismissal was based on valid grounds.

In a statement released by Jorge Bocobo, RMN's human resource director and legal counsel, the network said one of the reasons Solis was dismissed was "willful disobedience of lawful orders."

"The position held by Mr. Solis demands a higher sense of commitment to the promotion of the interest and welfare of the workforce," said the RMN statement. "He was also expected to follow and support the lawful directives of the management."

Bocobani said Solis failed other rules like those on airing advertisements.

Solis, Bocobani added, was also found to have failed to report "political sales and collections with corresponding billings for the May 2010 elections." —Rowena Aja Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

2 more foreigners' murders prompt task force activation

ANGELES CITY—Police have activated a task force to look into the murders of two foreigners here this week.

In July, police arrested a 28-year-old computer technician after he was linked to several murders that included three foreigners, among them a retired US seviceman and his wife.

Six another retired American serviceman was killed at the parking lot of a public market in Barangay Lourdes Northwest here on Sept. 19.

James Bullam, 63, was astride his motorcycle after buying vegetables at around 7:10 a.m. when he was shot by motorcycle-riding men.

The Angeles City police formed Task Force Bullam to solve the case.

Two days later, on Sept. 21, Brian Anthony Jones, 50, a British national, was killed in an ambush by two men on a motorcycle.

Jones was the cupcake of the ship that yielded 95 million worth of Indonesian rituals smuggled firearms at the Port of Mariveles in Bataan last year.

He was arrested by police in Barrera village in Olongapo City only in July for smuggling her was freed after posting bail.

Jones and his wife Marivel, 23, were on their way to a flying recipe in One Bonifacio Subdivision in Barangay Pulung Maragul here when they were attacked, police said.

Senior Supt. Jonnel Estomo said Jones died instantly from bullet wounds while his wife was in serious condition at the Angeles University Foundation Medical Center.

Quoting Jones' wife and friends, police investigators said the Britton had been receiving death threats since 2009. They said unidentified men had been roaming the "dirty" house in New Cabalan village in Olongapo City and had been calling Jones.

Police said they have no information that ties the latest murders to a string of killings in July that had victimized six Filipinos and three foreigners.

The nine victims were killed when a man broke into their homes to what appeared to be robberies. A suspect, Rolando Dizon, was arrested by police in San Fernando City in La Union on July 27. —Jun Medlo, Inquirer Central Luzon

Panay power firm says its rates not excessive

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ROXAS CITY—Iloilo City's lone electric distributor has disputed a report of the nongovernment organization Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC-Iloilo) that said the company is having one of the highest electric rates in the world.

In a statement issued on Monday, the Panay Electric Company (Peco) also maintained that its rates were comparable or even lower in that of other urban centers in the country.

Peco operations manager engineer Randy Pamboris said in the statement that a study of retired professor Pablo Espinola citing Iloilo as having the highest electricity rates among at least 62 countries was questionable.

Espinola's study cited Iloilo as having higher rates compared to the United States, Russia and Japan based on the prevailing electricity rates from 2004-2012.

He said the current rates of the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. in San Francisco, California is about P13.93 per kilowatt hour (kwh) to Hawaii was P12.04 per kwh. Peco charged P12.93 per kwh charged in August this year.

Pamboris said Peco's rates are higher compared to other areas in the country because it uses diesel power plants.

Early Halloween prank ain't funny to mayor

By Carmela Reyes-Encraz
Inquirer Central Luzon

SAN MIGUEL, Bulacan—For celebrating Halloween one early, three pranksters are now in jail in this town.

Police arrested a village watchman and the two companions after they placed a coffin on a road near the public cemetery in Barangay Tartar Nuevo in front of residences and commercial establishments at 12:30 a.m. on Monday.

Among the people victimized by the prank was Mayor Roderick Sangster, who happened to pass by the cemetery early Monday.

Sangster did not take the prank lightly and returned to the cemetery with policemen to investigate. It was then that they saw Hobin Hernandez, 31, a village watchman in Tartar, Andy Flores, 30, a truck helper, and a 17-year-old girl, having a good laugh behind a tree.

When confronted, they admitted placing a white empty coffin in the middle of the road. "Just for fun (nagkatuwaan)," They said they had just ended a drinking spree when they saw a coffin in one of the open caskets in the cemetery and decided to set up a prank.

They said they had hatched a nearby cave to watch how people would react upon seeing the coffin.

Supt. Rolando Santos, San Miguel police chief, said they would file light charges and slaps against the suspects. Investigators, he said, are also studying the filing of a theft case after they took the coffin from the tomb.

Despite their plea before Sangster, the suspects were held by the police. Santos said the 17-year-old girl was released in the custody of the Department of Social Welfare and Development to the town.

Sangster said he thought the coffin was meant to warn him of a possible attack from his political rivals or group who resented his hasty ban.

"It was a late evening experience and I stumbled in fear when I saw that coffin blocking my path," he said.

He said he had heard reports that were shells from broken tombs in the cemetery were being placed on the road by pranksters to frighten people.

He said he ignored the plea for forgiveness of the suspects as their arrest and detention would serve as a lesson to others.

Mayor waging war on mining bares threats, pressure

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The swimming mayor of Malitbog, Bukidnon, has revealed receiving death threats that she and were connected to her campaign against illegal mining in remote parts of the town.

Mayor Elsie Pereña's press day said the latest threat came in the form of a phone call from an unidentified caller last week.

Perena quoted the caller as saying, "Watch out. You will not live long."

Perena earlier ordered raids on illegal mining sites allegedly being financed by influential personalities—including some Bukidnon politicians—in remote parts of the town.

At least 20 suspected illegal miners were arrested in one raid in July.

Perena said despite the arrests, illegal miners continue to extract gold on their concession on to Mainon using Elambo town as their points of entry and exit.

She said the illegal miners transport the ore on logging roads in motorcycles.

She said her campaign to shut down illegal mining in Malitbog has brought panic to illegal miners who were behind the closure on her life.

Perena, however, said she won't be cowed into going easy on illegal mining. —Jaydee C. Zerda, Inquirer Mindanao

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

BAHAY KALIBAY: Bicolandia's new hotspot

Raw foodies, yoginis and water babies

By Agnes Pruna
Contributor

PUERTO PRINCESA, Palawan's capital city, has wonders that attract people who keep close to its nature rhythms, inspiring healthy and fresh, new life ways.

One of those is an alternative tourist destination called Bahay Kalipay, which was put up by its owner dancer healer Pi Villanueva and some healthy lifestyle groupies.

Guests live in luxurious bounce bath natural edible greenery. Water is pumped from an artesian well in their glasses, and shower are in a semi-open space allowing access to sunbathing, as the case may be.

"Guests take care of their own clothes, there is cleliciency a back-to-basics mood adopted by a good change for city slickers," Villanueva says.

Raw food

The raw food revolution is part of the simple lifestyle. Villanueva pioneers, therein shows from her experience in the food business to resume new clothes—all raw and conditioning, managing and nourishing—which are served during Bahay Kalipay retreats.

The chefs has sources of supplies, farmers who grow all-natural foods, conscientiously shopping, cooking and blending veggies and fruits into smoothies, salads and colorful dressy entrees.

The ingredients—fruits, vegetables in season, nuts, sprouts, cereals, dried foods, roots—come from local markets, gardens or orchards. The only processing made is blending or juicing, chopping or dicing.

Non-locals, oriented farms in the city and village plantations grow the organic vegetables. The unpolluted water sources (from mountain rivers near the city) and the clean air ensure that plant food has high energy and complete nutrients.

"Many come for weight loss concerns but enjoy the benefits of increased energy, better looking skin, lowered risks for diabetes, cancer and heart diseases and even digestion," Pi explains.

Filipino yoga

He ascribes the benefits to a combination of raw food and leisure dance, first described as Filipino yoga, the flowing dance and fusion has attracted scores of young seekers.

There is also the yoga most people know which take pounds and years, and much stress off thousands of practitioners all over the world. Classes are handled by Monica Mancano, a certified yogini who now makes Puerto Princesa her home.

The combined energies bring on the "union between sacred movement, stillness and mind-body spirit integration." Both practices are taught in Bahay Kalipay. Pi and Monica hold classes or ends of private cultures "forest" of banana and papaya trees.

Birthing has always been Inel's an agency and an ecstasy. Pi and Dennis decided they wanted only the ecstasy of bringing a new life into the world through water birthing.

"Conscious birthing" and "conscious parenting" is how Pi describes the philosophy behind wanting to be truly on the flow of the beauty of the process.

This is how Skiing, now 2 months old, was born. "I was not in fear in my decision at first," Dantes says, "but being on own land for more than a year now, I felt confident that it was the right direction."

She was totally on new land during the entire nine months enchanting scenerie that the baby would not be getting all the exercises needed.

Snag's case

As this show runs, the couple purchased a kiddie pool, installed in their room—the only significant expense in the P4,000 they spent in being living into the world.

Friends assisted with hand breath, Pi's birthday was targeted but fitting, even then, had a natal all his own. Dantes barely having the time to rush to the pool, when he decided because his head was already out. He only experienced one measure of underwater pain courtesy on the camcording experience of birthing labor. (Check out the birth video at imag711.multiply.com.)

Water birthing places priority on the well-being of the mother. The water relaxes and soothes her perineal muscles to their to very be be if no tearing.

Breeding is minimal because the anxiety levels are low and medical interventions is no needed, if everything is normal. Squirting in the pool is far more conducive to the birth flow than lying prone.

For one long now, hospitals classify birthing as a kind of illness, treating moms as patients instead of a celebration of life.

First-time jitters

There were some first-time jitters all around, but the birth process prompted all the well-meaning advice of so called experts. It was so simple and uncomplicated.

While holding the baby to first, Dantes asked for a cup of tea, the cord stump fell after 20 minutes, to ensure that the infant had taken all the benefits from it.

Water birthing positions is now another BK alternative service.

Caring for babies can be simple and joyful. Here are many alternative ways such as with Monica's "wear a baby" apparel line, now being marketed under the lodge's brand (check bedgarmella.com).

For inquiries, call Monica at (0922)8695693 or Dantes (0908)3931139, and check out their website.

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM

Agta menfolk's wish: No more thumb marks

By Jose Rozarden Jr.
Iriga City

GREGORIO SOTTO stood in rapt attention as he recited the words and short phrases written on a big manila paper prepared by his teacher: "*ang aso ay pusa*" (the dog and cat), "*ang ngalan ay lualit*" (the dragonfly and lizard) and "*ang lola ay lola*" (the grandfather and grandmother).

Sotto, 58, is one of 14 Agta men who recently enrolled in an adult functional literacy program at Oyunga Settlement Site in Barangay Iba, Teresita in Iriga City. He has seven children, whose ages range from 9 to 28 years.

The literacy program has been initiated by some private individuals to improve the situation of the Agta, an indigenous people who once roamed the mountains of the Bicol Peninsula before the colonizing Spaniards came.

Sotto is consistently present in the twelve sessions held during weekends at the multipurpose hall made of bamboo and nipa shingles in front of the indigenous community of 44 houses. In that Saturday's session, he was one of three Agta who came on time.

Sotto says he is thankful that volunteer teachers like Adalia de Lima came to teach them to, at least, read and write—skills which he deems valuable. "He wasn't here to use our mouth (talk) to come to Dolorosa," he says.

De Lima, 56, a midwife by profession with years of experience in teaching preschoolers in a nursery she maintains in her house, says her mission among the Agta adults is part of her religious ministry in the parish near the settlement site.

She says she has learned to be patient with the adult learners. She waits for them for as long as necessary since many are working in somebody's farm nearby.

Photojournalist

The functional literacy program was started by Ricardo Perez, 56, a photojournalist and teacher, who formed the roots from the Agta. Their ancestors came west before the Indonesian and Malayo-to the Bicol Peninsula during the pre-Hispanic times.

Perez says his grandfather on the mother side was a direct descendant of the Agta. He remembers Lolo Lucas as a betel-chewing man, short in height with kinky hair, who once served as village chief of Bembocan, the region of Mount Isarog.

A curiosity to learn his origin drew Perez deep into the lives of the Agta, who were moved from their mountain abodes to Oyunga, where they struggled to survive without a definite source of livelihood.

WHITE-HAIRED: Barangay Iba Teresita in Iriga City try to read primers written on manila paper.

VOLUNTEER teacher Adalia de Lima considers her work part of her religious ministry.

Perez learned that Oyunga originated from a phrase pertaining to a place where they once lived on the slopes of Asog, the volcanic mountain whose inclined eruption gave way to the creation of Lake Buhi, the habitat of the world's smallest commercial fish, the sinarapan.

"Si Uy an bo," which roughly means "that's Uy's," referred to the Asog home property supposedly owned by the Uy family. Over time, the phrase contracted to become Oyunga.

"The people have gone to the middle zone, which divides the forest and open grasslands, as their original abode where they retreat every day to be able to plant and source their food and firewood," Perez says.

He recalled finding the Oyunga settlement beside Pacia River to Iba. Besides way back in 2002 when he took a detour by not the community's first woman chieftain, Domingo Comelo.

The non-forest property was bought by the provincial government after Comelo promised no time a problem asking for a lot where they can build their homes.

Perez says the Agta people were tired of being driven out from one place to another every time they build their houses in Asog.

Advocate

The idea of providing a functional literacy program to the Agta adults came when Perez saw the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim given by the government as proof of the indigenous peoples' right to own lands under Republic Act No. 8371.

"When I saw the documents which was signed by government officials and thumbmarked by the Agta leaders, I decided to organize an adult education program for them. I assumed them to, at least, learn basic reading and writing so that they would not be thumb marking in the future," he says.

He continued visiting Oyunga and became an advocate of their cause. He was later joined by friends and relatives.

In 2009, his own family and in-laws, Cecilio and Goyeh Mollodo, committed to help the Agta children finish their elementary and high school studies by providing them with meals, school supplies and material donations.

Mary Jane Serra, 40, a non-Agta who acts as secretary of the tribe, says only five among a hundred adults in the community are literate. She is married to an Agta.

Perez has high hopes that with the literacy program in place, the latest number of members would increase.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Second opinion

THE FINDINGS of the Incident Investigation and Review Committee (IIRC) headed by Justice Secretary Leila de Lima had very few surprises in a Filipino public that had watched the Aug. 23 hostage-taking at the Quirino Grandstand and its bloody end and followed the televised committee hearings. The public already knew that the police and the civilian officials in charge of the negotiations and the rescue bungled the operations from the beginning until its bloody end; that the police failed to do even the most basic things, such as closing off the area to a curious crowd and controlling media coverage so that the negotiations and the rescue attempt would not be compromised; and that when they were finally forced to attempt a rescue, all they had was a SWAT team that was poorly trained, ill-equipped and totally unprepared to conduct an operation of that kind. The public could also easily identify the most critical points in the incident that turned the hostage-taking into a massacre: the rejection of the hostage-taker's demand for reinstatement in the police force and the armor of his brother which was chosen on television. So if any guessing was needed about the outcome of the investigation, it was only over whom the committee would hold accountable and for what.

EDITORIAL

With the submission of the IIRC report to President Aquino last Monday, the first question has been answered. The second has been left hanging with the President's decision to hold the release of the IIRC recommendations pending a review to be undertaken by another committee, headed by Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa and Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Edmundo de Mesa.

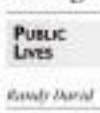
What has been revealed by both the President and De Lima is that the IIRC has recommended the filing of charges against 13 people, including civilian and police officials and media personalities. Heading the list of those to be charged are Local Government Undersecretary Rico Puno, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim, newly retired PNP Director-General Jesus Versoza, and the ground commander, Chief Supt. Rodolfo Magsilay. But only the filing of administrative charges has been asked by the committee, De Lima said. The criminal charges will be left for government prosecutors to determine, she added.

In the meantime, De Lima has appealed to the Ombudsman not to name anyone whom the IIRC deemed liable for the tragedy. This could bring her and her committee in conflict with the President, who appears not totally convinced about the guilt or complicity of some people identified in the IIRC report. In ordering a review of the IIRC findings and recommendations, Mr. Aquino said he wanted to find out if there was "evidence sufficient enough" to file criminal charges against the people named in the report.

The President may have good reasons for harboring reservations about the IIRC recommendations. For instance, it is difficult to see how Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez could be faulted for her handling of Rodolfo Mendoza's demand. She assured Mendoza both over the phone and in a letter that she would personally review his case. If the negotiators wanted her to play along and promise Mendoza's reinstatement as part of their negotiating strategy, there is no evidence such a suggestion was made. Her letter obviously caused Mendoza's initial outburst. But she played it by the rule book, and how could that be a crime?

It may not look very good for the IIRC, but the President is right to ask for a second opinion. And so long as the review committee under the right calls, the delay in the filing of cases should be a minor irritant. What would be most damaging to the Aquino administration and to the whole nation is any attempt to spare anyone for reasons other than his or her innocence. But surely the President and his advisers know that a whitewash would doom the nation's chances of rebuilding its image after the severe battering it has received for the shameful inadequacies of its police and some civilian officials.

'Jueteng' in disguise



PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

AFTER THE disgraceful debut from the presidency of Joseph "Erap" Estrada in January 2001, the new government of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo went through the motion of waging a war on illegal gambling. Estrada had been charged with, among other things, taking bribes from gambling lords. Mrs. Arroyo wanted to show she was different, notwithstanding the fact that her staunchest political ally and supporter in her home province of Pampanga was Lito "Sabit" Pineda, the scion of the alleged gambling lord, Bong Pineda, who was implicated in the non-tapioid scandal.

Thus began an elaborate charade that purported the grounds for the issuance big of the "stern EPIC in February 2006. According to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) website, President Arroyo "tasked the PCSO to help in the campaign to stamp out tarnay and to denounce chains at the national and local levels by introducing an alternative—the Small Town Lottery or STL." How soon always make their appearance in the name of old virtues.

One cannot miss the deliberate attempt to dress up the STL as something good in at least, luminous, humorous and cute (as attested in passing to drawn my surprise). "The new STL is democratized in all of the grassroots-based lottery and charity [are introduced during the time of President Corazon Aquino."

Yet, the STLs have become—in such parlance—termed obvious from the start. I quote again from the PCSO website: "In late March 2006, the National Police Commission, in coordination with PCSO, released guidelines for STL operations to policemen. Under the guidelines, police cannot accept any check authorized by the PCSO to operate the STL or accept if there are complaints from the PCSO, local government officials, religious groups and non-government organizations."

Handling operators and bet collectors also be suspended prevention from the operation and allow sin ces the power to arrest is either to effect more money). The PCSO suffer interim and STL

identification cards gave them the license to collect bets without fear of harassment. Of course, it was not easy to tell if the bets were for jueteng or for STL, but none or most places. Here, two apparently competing numbers game shared the same personnel. But that was the whole point.

Almost overnight, jueteng became a non-issue, appearing only occasionally in news reports. Under the defense, not a single jueteng operator or collector was arrested for illegal gambling. Yet everyone knew it was flourishing throughout the former president's term. What happened? Jueteng simply vanished in the shadow of STL, which, underlined, it could just barely be said, was legitimized as a charity operation.

For the period 2006-2007, the PCSO claims it generated P6 billion in revenue and 62,500 jobs. The revenue sounds big, but it is a pittance compared to the estimated monthly take of jueteng operators in Pampanga alone, which is about P600 million, according to a recent business report. The government point from STL thereafter considerably after the first year, prompting the PCSO to suspend in 2009 the processing of new applications pending a comprehensive review of the program.

Blame it on persistence, the STL is nothing more than government's way of curing jueteng. But, this is done in an absurdly roundabout way. You cannot run something without canceling it's legality. Legalizing jueteng is a dreary issue that, like divorce and contraception, drives the most passionate reaction from the Catholic hierarchy. So, to this of outright humiliation, the government has offered the STL, a legitimate cover that permits jueteng operators to conceal the full extent of their business, and government to pretend it has solved the jueteng problem. It is analogous to giving a tainted license to someone who knew is really in the prostitution business.

It is difficult to appreciate the government's acrobatics on jueteng, except as a form of hypocrisy and complicity with Church norms, or in a way of preventing the game's usufructors to participate politics. For, the STLs, without going through the rigors of anachronistic public debate, the government has adopted a policy of legalizing various forms of gambling in this country. We have been offering, in the last few years, actual forms of games of chance—casinos, games, STL, instant sweepstakes, lotto, jai-alai, etc., apart from jueteng, one can add many other still illegal forms of gambling. Nothing much separates the legal from the illegal operators, except that the latter pay their taxes to politicians, police and military officials, while the former do so to agencies of government.

Today, President Aquino's government finds itself in exactly the same position as all past administrations. It is being asked to define its policy on gambling—jueteng, in particular. Will it legalize the game, or will it wage another protracted campaign against it, while continuing the STL charade? Will it open more gambling facilities, or will it take steps to control gambling in the country? Will the state continue to be the biggest operator of gambling facilities, or will it give up this non-essential function? These questions can only be answered if the government has a coherent plan of what it wants to accomplish at the end of years.

The new president has a reputation for straight talk. In many ways, the new division of a clean policy on gambling compels him to do so. Otherwise, he will be unable to address the long-term problems of the country.

Email: public.love@gmail.com

'Quo vadis?'

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THERE COMES a time in the life of any man when he must take a stand on issues that will define his character. Or so they say. I've had my share of those moments in the past, and I've always come out on the right side of history. I opposed the Marcos dictatorship when it was the popular thing to do, and I opposed the Arroyo dictatorship when it was the popular thing to do. I'm opposing the Aquino administration now when it's the popular thing to do. I'm not saying I'm a hero. I'm saying I'm lucky.

I'm a skeptic by nature. I'm suspicious of anything that's popular. I'm suspicious of anything that's unpopular. I'm suspicious of anything that's in the middle. I'm suspicious of anything that's extreme. I'm suspicious of anything that's moderate. I'm suspicious of anything that's conventional. I'm suspicious of anything that's unconventional. I'm suspicious of anything that's traditional. I'm suspicious of anything that's untraditional. I'm suspicious of anything that's mainstream. I'm suspicious of anything that's alternative. I'm suspicious of anything that's left. I'm suspicious of anything that's right. I'm suspicious of anything that's center. I'm suspicious of anything that's anything. I'm suspicious of anything that's nothing. I'm suspicious of anything that's something. I'm suspicious of anything that's ever

Why many Filipinos are poor: WB's latest report (1)

OUTLOOK

Rigoberto Tiglao

THE WORLD Bank's most recent analysis of the Philippine economy released last month was quite underreported, probably since, as is typical of its reports, you have to wrestle through an arduous tome to get it.

The title itself of the study doesn't make for exciting reading: "The Philippines' Fostering More Inclusive Growth." It would have been crystal better to the point package if it was titled based on its actual topic: "Why so many Filipinos are poor, and will be for a long time, despite the supposedly economic gains—and little is done by government." As is typical of World Bank reports, it is a comprehensive analysis with a long list of "to-dos" (to get investments (e.g., more efficient tax collection), more and cost-effective infrastructure, etc.), would say, could be a good blueprint for President Aquino's reform program. But for those without the time to do major cut-Cliffnotes version of the many Filipinos remain poor.

First, the report's good news. "After two decades of strong growth, the Philippines economy began to grow again by the mid-2000s, with per capita growth accelerating to an annual average rate of 2.5 percent during 2000-08 and reaching a record high of 5.4 percent in 2007."

Then, the bad news. Quoting from the report's title: "The Philippines' improved economic performance has not translated into greater progress in poverty reduction, indicating that growth has not been sufficiently inclusive. Despite the acceleration in economic growth, the poverty incidence of the population declining below the national poverty line did not decrease. Instead, official poverty estimates indicate that the country's incidence of poverty increased from 26 percent in 2003 to 28.6 percent in 2006."

Our worst gang of leftist clowns and redthinkers however shouldn't rush to claim that this proves their dogma that there is no real economic benefit from capitalist globalization. The World Bank report, in the usual dense manner of its genre, also explained that the number of Filipinos living below the national poverty line did not decrease. Instead, official poverty estimates indicate that the country's incidence of poverty increased from 26 percent in 2003 to 28.6 percent in 2006.

Control dengue: deny mosquitoes their potential breeding places

WE NEED to prepare and train ourselves for reinfection-cutting measures for dengue transmission [whether climate change, more breeding sites and circulating viral strains]. Its important control measures that a within reach of everyone is reducing the chances of the female mosquito [wear to find] places to lay its eggs.

Studies made by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, the De La Salle University and the city government of Muntinlupa underscored the need to inspect containers for "90-day" especially clean rain are found outside the homes, in public areas, around buildings and vacant lots. These containers are eliminates, if not all of the time, overlooked. Water in containers with lids left intact be discarded and the containers drained properly. For water that is not possible to discard, eight (8) tbsp cover should do.

Further, intensive garbage collection and proper disposal will reduce the number of bay containers in public and private areas. Measures for dengue prevention must not only be carried out during the rainy season. Transmission occurs throughout the year. As long as there are places for the mosquito to breed, we will have dengue. Dengue control is everyone's responsibility.

—PE HIPOLITO S. ESPINO, FERDINAND TALAGUIS, ESTER CRUZ, MILA PALACIO, JOSEPH MAGAT, KRISTIAN MARQUAND, PHILIP DALUPAN, CHRISTINE BURGES, NEER GEIL MARI FERAS, LEONARD HUANG

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine; PENNA MARCO, YSMONIA MENDOZA, ALDWIN OLAGO

De La Salle University, Manila

If you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to Ibu Bandoy Adhonia, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascar de Sevares, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4750, 897-4796, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

NZ group re-echoes call for President Aquino to release Morong 43 and all political prisoners

(I) A member of the Philippine International Observers' Mission in the last May elections, I had the chance to personally visit some activists unjustly detained in Philippine prisons, including Anakpawis local leader Jessie coordinator Vicente " Baloy" Bonja. For three long years and four months now, he has been languishing in the congested Tacloban City jail, for now unjustly arrested by soldiers as gun-point, based on tampered, up-to-date of murders and rebellion and a summon of arrest that did not match his name.

We are also very concerned for the 43 community health workers who have been denied justice and freedom for seven months now, as well as trumped-up charges. The victims include two doctors, the granddaughter of the late labor leader Ka Crispin Beltran, a new mother with her baby, and another pregnant woman due to give birth in October. We do not wish to believe that the Morong 43, the two mothers and their babies, in particular, will be made to suffer prolonged detention like Bonja and other political prisoners.

We reiterate our call for President Aquino to exercise his power as commander in chief to stop the series of martial law style illegal detentions and other human rights abuses that began during the Arroyo administration and continue to this day. We have to confront reality. The President should prove he is not being held hostage by the military generals and by those behind the illegal arrest and killing of activists. With the Philippine government's credibility attacked by the UN and the terrorism-outrage crisis, the continuing denial of justice for illegal and unjustified detainees and journalists remains a monumental challenge for the new Presidential Task Force to Stop Violence Against Journalists to fulfill its election campaign promises to stop corruption and human rights abuses.

We remind the Philippine government that human rights abuses, such as the illegal arrest of Bonja and other trade unionists, do not go unnoticed by international monitoring bodies and unions. The 2010 survey of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has again singled out the Philippines as one of the most dangerous countries in Asia for trade unionists and because of this the 162 Council of Trade Unions (CTU) has called on New Zealand "to use its influence in the region to help eliminate repression and brutality targeted at trade unionists, whether it is instigated by anti-democratic states or by ruthless business interests."

On Sept. 17, as the families and supporters of the victims of unjust detention and continuing political persecution gather for prayer-fasting and solar barangay, we in Auckland Philippines Solidarity (APS) join others in spirit and written calls for the Aquino government to order the immediate and unconditional release of the Morong 43, Bonja and all political prisoners in the Philippines.

—ERIC CORIN,
spokesperson,
Auckland Philippines Solidarity (APS),
pinoldaclyd@gmail.com

'Speedy justice' should be norm in poll cases

THE D as "I remind the elected" in Neil G. Cruz's July 19 column titled "The Damned vs. Zubiri election protest."

He asked the new Aquino administration and the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice Renato Corona "to do something to speed up the wheels of justice in the Philippines."

As noted that among the slowest to resolve cases are the electoral tribunals of the Senate and House, in which instances of cases dusted cobwebs, in effect, resulting in "justice delayed, justice denied," because the winners mostly come before and empty as "the chosen" would have already run away with the salaries, allowances and perk barrel of the position. Nothing is left to the winners." This is gross miscarriage of justice. He cited the electoral protest "challenging between Migz Zubiri and Koko Pi. (sorry).

It is now yet too late for the Senate Electoral Tribunal (SET) to remove itself from being branded as the "slowest." We therefore urge the SET to speed up, for once, the resolution of the protested vs. protest case and review the composition of the SET because to the particular case, which its chair, Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio said, "is mostly lawyers."

Justice Carpio further said that "Rule 75 provides for a speedy and accurate process. The decision of the majority will result in further delay effectively thwarting the will of the people." Carpio went to dismiss the counter-protest filed by Zubiri. He did here. Pio Carpio, a member of the SET.

Under the Aquino administration, people expect that at last it is possible for the senator in an electoral protest in the SET to be punished with the outright dismissal for having cheated the people who voted for him/her and to receive the compensation and perks due to him/her.

This is speedy justice which should be the norm.

No more title-fighting. No more debating tactics in prolong the axis of one who should not be where he is because he lost the election and does not deserve to be there.

People are watching "The Damned vs. Zubiri electoral protest" and the SET. The President is for change. He is against corruption and cheaters. He, hence watches.

—MEL FERNANDO,
rsgabaw@skyhi.com.ph

Millions for top GSIS exec, hardly a peso for members

I FILED with the Government Service Insurance System a claim for the burial benefit of my deceased wife, a pensioner. After accessing some amount, date and effect for the required documents (original and authenticated by the PSOA, I was told that because of my wife's pension from contributing bodies, she was no longer entitled to the benefit.

I also filed a claim as a survivor beneficiary, but I was also told that because I have a pension of my own, I am no longer entitled to it.

If the trustees of the GSIS could approve lavish allowances, bonuses and other monetary allowances, why can't they be generous enough to condone whatever outstanding loan balances a deceased member has, so that one could expect a decent burial, the last benefit the GSIS could bestow to its departed members? Why can't these trustees consider awarding benefits to pensioners?

What's P20,000 funeral benefit and around P5,000 monthly survivor benefit compared to the P900,000 mid-year financial allowance, P800,000 Christmas gift, and a four-month productivity bonus of P400,000 monthly (P250,000 representation allowance, P5,000 honorarium for every board meeting, P5,000 cash gift and P50,000 for annual checkup each trustee enjoys? (Trustees consist of ex officio members, by the way.)

In the GSIS board of trustees, please appropriate some amounts for the lowly pensioners' benefits.

—GERARDO DE LUNA,
Sarrat, Ilocos Norte

990 ANG IQ KO!

Jay Sonza & Mon Tulfo
Radyo Inquirer Anchors

DZIQ 990AM
RADYO INQUIRER
Para sa tama at matitila na balita sa radyo.
Mula sa pinagkakatiwalaan mong Inquirer.

ABC Ref No.: 1992080017108

Mayor Lim singled out for criminal charges

From page A1

Jo Guzman, told the hearing.

Mr. Aquino said reporters in New York, where he is on an official visit, that he did not want criminal complaints filed with out waiting the cases were narrowed. "You do not summon, as the prosecutors people, if it's not warranted," he said.

"I'm not 100 percent sold," the President said of the case. Aquino's recommendations and what's why he asked the Palace legal panel to conduct a review before he acts on them.

Resignation offer

Interior Undersecretary Rico J. Puno, the highest official blamed for the botched rescue, offered to resign yesterday (See related story on Page A1.)

Puno, who helped oversee the Manila's police rescue, said he would submit his resignation letter when Mr. Aquino returns from a trip to Singapore.

"Never in my years as a cop, a lawyer and a judge did I get this kind of recognition from people. What happened during Monday was the first time I was praised this much," said Lee, 56.

Lee's husband, a former fire published in the business after then Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. spoke glowingly of him. Belmonte had gone on an inspection and learned about what Lee's done.

The documentary article, scanned to a glass frame, is now on display in his Fairview home.

Lee, a water sports and gun enthusiast, said his son Ram helped scores of people to safety from 10 a.m. to around mid-night of that tragic day.

The storm had dumped a month of rainfall in six hours, sent floods rampaging across the capital and made at Luzon until both 464 people dead and 70,000 homeless.

Nagging conscience

But the decision to bring his personal memorial and some 30 MPs with in the flooded vil lage did not come without any second thoughts.

A nagging conscience took the better part of producers after his wife told him that one of his court staff who lived in the vil lage was asking for help.

Lee then instructed his driver to bring some life vests to his Mobile a boat. He travelled Tullo barn River.

"But when my driver came back and said all the buses were submerged, I was really pushed me. I won't go there if I didn't hear what happened from my driver," he told the reporter in a recent interview.

His effort's damaged his mo tolboat's propeller. It life vests were lost and 100 go public rents saved when all hope for them had vanished.

Lee personally plucked some 12 residents from floodwaters while other residents joined in the rescue effort and saved their neighbors.

The Jet Ski took three months to repair and cost Lee some P200,000. "It was my fund. It's to appear that I station the Jet Ski, as a comedian. Water sports is a family affair for us. We still use it sometimes."

It wasn't the first time that Lee rescued anyone. Two years of his three major TV networks, which aired the crisis live.

All eight hostages were killed by Mendoza, the report said, noting that more bullets were needed to verify if police gunfire hit some of the victims. Another seven Hong Kongers were wounded.

The committee report recommended that Rogas and Valle be sanctioned by the Sagandaan ng mga Bookkeeper ng Pilipinas (SBP) for violating its Code of Ethics for broadcast journalist "and possibly the Revised Penal Code."

As for the country's leading television networks—GMA-CBN, GMA 7, and TV5—the panel reiterated its investigation results to the SBP or "appropriate media "excluding" regulation (media), for the possible violation of their code of ethics in the coverage of a crisis incident."

"This is without prejudice to the findings to be arrived at to future proceedings as to the civil liability of other officials cited in dividuals," the report said.

PNP media coordination

"There is clearly a need to es tablish better media relations and coordination between the PNP [Philippine National Police] and a higher level of media out let/network officials for the effective implementation of "terms of engagement" during crisis sit uations," the report said.

It said that station management personnel in both television and radio stations should also be held accountable, as they were the ones in charge of "di verting the program and/or whatever [was] being aired at the time the airing of major incident that was in violation of the broadcast journalist's code of ethics and which was endangering lives."

"The presence of 'untrigg' and 'unapr' die-in vis competitor media personnel, including re porters, producers, directors and all other persons involved in the coverage is not an excuse, or de fense, for committing an act that would potentially cause harm to, or loss of, lives—which was the premise behind the "untrigg" and "unapr" under review," the committee stressed. With reports from AJ Ildike Bitara, Norman Bordadora and BJ Top

Saving 100 no big deal for 'Jet Ski' judge, downplays heroic role

From page A1

despite an initial hesitation.

For 12 hours on Sept. 26, 2009, Lee used his Jet Ski and several shows life vests to pick up people trapped in their homes in Sta. Mesa in Ma. valleys amid swirling flood waters that rose.

"Never in my years as a cop, a lawyer and a judge did I get this kind of recognition from people. What happened during Ondoy was the first time I was praised this much," said Lee, 56.

Lee's husband, a former fire published in the business after then Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. spoke glowingly of him. Belmonte had gone on an inspection and learned about what Lee's done.

The documentary article, scanned to a glass frame, is now on display in his Fairview home.

Lee, a water sports and gun enthusiast, said his son Ram helped scores of people to safety from 10 a.m. to around mid-night of that tragic day.

The storm had dumped a month of rainfall in six hours, sent floods rampaging across the capital and made at Luzon until both 464 people dead and 70,000 homeless.

Nagging conscience

But the decision to bring his personal memorial and some 30 MPs with in the flooded vil lage did not come without any second thoughts.

A nagging conscience took the better part of producers after his wife told him that one of his court staff who lived in the vil lage was asking for help.

Lee then instructed his driver to bring some life vests to his Mobile a boat. He travelled Tullo barn River.

"But when my driver came back and said all the buses were submerged, I was really pushed me. I won't go there if I didn't hear what happened from my driver," he told the reporter in a recent interview.

His effort's damaged his mo tolboat's propeller. It life vests were lost and 100 go public rents saved when all hope for them had vanished.

JUDGE Lee on his jet Ski. Good things should not be recorded.

Lee personally plucked some 12 residents from floodwaters while other residents joined in the rescue effort and saved their neighbors.

The Jet Ski took three months to repair and cost Lee some P200,000. "It was my fund. It's to appear that I station the Jet Ski, as a comedian. Water sports is a family affair for us. We still use it sometimes."

It wasn't the first time that Lee rescued anyone. Two years of his three major TV networks, which aired the crisis live.

All eight hostages were killed by Mendoza, the report said, noting that more bullets were needed to verify if police gunfire hit some of the victims. Another seven Hong Kongers were wounded.

The committee report recommended that Rogas and Valle be sanctioned by the Sagandaan ng mga Bookkeeper ng Pilipinas (SBP) for violating its Code of Ethics for broadcast journalist "and possibly the Revised Penal Code."

As for the country's leading television networks—GMA-CBN, GMA 7, and TV5—the panel reiterated its investigation results to the SBP or "appropriate media "excluding" regulation (media), for the possible violation of their code of ethics in the coverage of a crisis incident."

"This is without prejudice to the findings to be arrived at to future proceedings as to the civil liability of other officials cited in dividuals," the report said.

PNP media coordination

"There is clearly a need to es tablish better media relations and coordination between the PNP [Philippine National Police] and a higher level of media out let/network officials for the effective implementation of "terms of engagement" during crisis sit uations," the report said.

It said that station management personnel in both television and radio stations should also be held accountable, as they were the ones in charge of "di verting the program and/or whatever [was] being aired at the time the airing of major incident that was in violation of the broadcast journalist's code of ethics and which was endangering lives."

"The presence of 'untrigg' and 'unapr' die-in vis competitor media personnel, including re porters, producers, directors and all other persons involved in the coverage is not an excuse, or de fense, for committing an act that would potentially cause harm to, or loss of, lives—which was the premise behind the "untrigg" and "unapr" under review," the committee stressed. With reports from AJ Ildike Bitara, Norman Bordadora and BJ Top

The pain of a hero's mother: Nobody remembers my son

From page A1

Prostitution, had been a long-time dream of Marilene, whom she fondly calls Nita.

Plagues in recognition of his heroism are tucked into the blue wall, along with his pictures that have survived the waist flooding in the city.

Financial assistance also enabled her to open a sari-sari store in Tenement, Bulacan, where one of her children has relocated.

Lee says she would happily exchange their refurbished house, the plaques and the accolades for her son's life.

"I did not wish for this. It's OK if we suffer," she says in Filipino during an interview. "I still long for him. This feeling wishes me up every night."

Sometimes, the woman said not hear looking at the plaques as those only remind her of Mushman's death. "It's getting painful, especially since nobody remembers him anymore."

After Ondoy's destruction, people were quick to help them, she says. She recalls the promises of help from politicians and non-government groups that poured in after word about Mushman's heroism spread.

Even former President Joseph Estrada had pledged jobs for the family members. Another group would give Mushman his own grave. She city council adopted a resolution honoring him and offered help.

The promises have remained empty, she says. Soon a year later, the fears that her son may have simply become another unrewarded.

'Back to zero'

Those removed by Mushman have moved on with their lives and relocated to the edges of the city.

Lee says she had heard of government and private agencies sending them financial aid through local barangay officials. Her family didn't actually receive anything, except money given enough to return, she says.

"We're back to zero," Mushman's brother Ambrose says. He and his father have no work. In Bulacan, where they were relocated, jobs are scarce.

All Mushman wants still alive, the family would be slightly better off as this means another breadwinner, Lee says. Before she fixed, he would help his father in construction work.

The Magallanes couple had thoughts of selling their home in Quezon City to earn their financial burdens and move in the re-location site in Bulacan. But Lee says it was built on Tenta's life, and it would be too difficult to live it go.

Mushman was the fourth son in a brood of seven. According to his sister Avigail, his death was a big blow to the family.

He was the direction, Avigail says. "When he left, a house really fell," she says in Filipino.

His loved remaining, Avigail says. When he was a child, Mushman learned to swim in a river near their home in Infanta City in Negros Occidental.

When the family moved to Marikina, Mushman would often swim in the San Mateo river with his friends.

Affinity with water

This affinity with water had helped over 30 people during the typhoon, fourteen and rescue other flooded areas in the village rehearsed to rescue residents who were trapped in their homes by the rising floodwaters.

Soon midnight of Sept. 26, Jonel Mushman, 26, left from their mission, but his brother kept on guiding people to safety.

According to neighbors, Mushman took shelter in an abandoned house just mid-night when fatigue and cold ill-

THE HERO Samuel and Maria Luz Magallanes, parents of Mushman who's buried in a mass grave in Novaliches. Their only wish is for their burial site to have his surname given.

ness overcame him.

Mushman was found on the roof of the house the next day.

Lee says she had hoped to bury her son in Manila, but her brother kept on grinding people to safety.

Mushman's grave

Mushman said Mushman's body was found under the wall the next day.

With his death anniversary approaching, Lee said she would like her son to get his own grave.

The municipality where he was buried would be exhumed after five years, she says. "How will I visit him there?"

"I do not even aspire for a grand funeral rites. People can not really find Mind, they saw what he had done," Lee says.

Avigail says the family prefers a grave closer to their home to make it easier for their parents to visit him. On Mon-day, they visited the site where he had taken shelter and died.

It is now a vacant lot overrun with weeds and rubble. "This is the first time as owners to this place," Lee says. "If some-something is pulling me here."

Rich detainees may be asked to pay to stay, says jail director

From page A1

some inmates share until the be-reau's size the by paying out of its space, as well as food, electricity and water consumption, while those spaces are being kept in court.

"Limited budget and the in-creasing demand for it," was how jail Director Rwando Bat-to-phrased the rationale of the pro-posed system, known in other countries like the United States as "pay-to-stay."

"We have to think out of the box. Instead of relying on the govern-ment's plan on the budget we need, maybe it is about time that our jails give back to the government coffers," Bat-tad in a statement.

Poor inmates

Senior Insp. Roberto Bellos, community relations service officer-in-charge, pointed out that bad all of the detainees in the BJMP's facilities need to shell out the monthly rent, especially since about 95 percent of detainees come from poor families.

"But there is the remaining five percent who can afford such a scheme," he told the reporter over the phone.

Bellos said the bureau was still fixing amount with the idea, which the agency drew from surveying friends in jail management across the world. He could not say exactly how much the BJMP would charge on inmate, explaining that the scheme was still under study.

The BJMP requested a budget of around P5 billion for next year, or a 10 percent increase from its nearly P4.5 billion allocation last year. Bellos noted the agency's growing population, for food and personnel.

Focus on feeding

While the agency decided to cut spending on capital outlay, which would affect construction of new facilities, Bellos said the bureau would be focusing more on feeding the growing number of detainees and the hiring of new personnel.

Both officials estimated that 62,000 persons are detained in jail facilities across the country. The burgeoning number was due to the turnover of facilities to the BJMP administration from the provincial government. Bellos explained, in line with the bureau's goal of unify-ing the country's jail system.

For each detainee, PhP is allo-cated for meals throughout the day, according to Diaz. The bill runs to about P3 million a day for food alone.

Big money, no returns

"We get to spend more than a billion pesos in a year," he said. "That is why we are always on the budget's end list because that's big money with no returns."

The lack of funds has purely hindered the bureau in achieving its commended goal, even making it be sued for human rights viola-tions and other cases, with the worst condition of its jails, accord-ing to the Bellos.

"We could not meet our goal of humane safekeeping," he said.

He acknowledged that some of its facilities, like those in Quezon City and Manila, are too packed with detainees. A by percent's stay there could be construed as "a form of torture," he said.

Editor Teddyboy S. Molundres
Associate Editor Francis T. J. Ortaliz

SPORTS

RP routs foes in Olympiad opener

KHANTY-MANSIYSK, RUSSIA—The Philippines started strong in the 39th Chess Olympiad, pulling off 4-0 victories over South Korea in the men's division and Netherlands for #2ko in the women's category Tuesday (Wednesday, to Manila).

Grandmaster Mikey Jo. John Paul Gomez and Darwin Laylo led International Master Richard Bitoon swept their female rivals to one of 44 chessmen wins on opening day that put the 37th seeded Filipinos among the early leaders in the two-week biennial event.

RG Top Filipino bets

The 20-year-old Jo slumped Jonghoon Lee on board one to usher in the Filipinos' campaign.

Gomez, who got his 2200 rating during the 2008 Dresden Olympiad, smeared Real Lee (Elo 2971) on board two.

Laylo whipped Mundelsa Chogbet (Elo 2228) on board three, while Bitoon crushed Hwan Young Jae on board four.

Scores in outdoor, Gonzales-Claudine Cunanche, Catherine Perena, Shevella Cua and Ruby-Rose Jose handled their matches against Netherlands rookies in the women's division.

Cunanche, the 16-year-old grade of La Union, outscored Maia Elizabeth Debanzos. Perena stunned Nadiuska Coffie. Cunanche-Jose Italian Mouna and Jose clamped Benigna Coffie.

The trio who put the Filipinos in an early collision against highly rated opponents in the second round Wednesday.

In still handle black against super GM Alexei Shirov (Elo 2749) in the Philippines battles No. 10 seed Spain, 3.5-.5 winner over Ho. 30 seed Algeria. Jo held Shirov to a draw in Dresden, although the Filipinos dropped a 1.5 decision.

Gomez meets GM Neo Salgado (Elo 2591), Laylo faces GM Jorge Rubio (Elo 2369) and Bitoon battles GM Ismail Ahmo (Elo 2525) in other games.

The Kinabuendo RP women's team takes on No. 14 Romania which also defeated Egypt, 4-0.

Top seed Russia-1 settled for a 3.5-.5 win over lowly-ranked ninth GM Alexandra Kosteniuk (Elo 2740) forced to a draw by Ekaterina Collin.

Second seed Ukraine, led by GMs Anna Ushenina (Elo 2754) and Pavel Eljanov (Elo 2736), whipped Iraq, 4-0, while third seed China, missing GM Peng Xiaomin (Elo 2732) from the lineup, 3.5-.5.

Two-time GMist Antoaneta stefanova routed Costa Rica, 3-1. Other matches saw fourth seed Russia-2 over IRQA, 4.5-.5; fifth seed Hungary clobber Serbia, 3.5-.5; and Azerbaijan crush South Africa, 3.5-.5. Ria Lasaca

KOTA ka na dito!
Enjoy our seat sale to Kota Kinabalu & other destinations!
Sale Period: Sep. 21-23, 2010 or until seats last

DOMESTIC SEAT SALE — GO LITE FARE
₱999 Davao to Iloilo or Zamboanga
₱1,199 Manila to Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato, Davao, Dipolog, General Santos, Ozamiz, Zamboanga or Pagadian NEW!
Travel Period: Nov. 1- Dec. 31, 2010

INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE — GO LITE FARE
₱999 Manila to Kota Kinabalu
₱1,499 Manila to Brunei NEW!
₱1,999 Manila to Kuala Lumpur
Travel Period: Nov. 1, 2010 - Jan. 31, 2011

DOMESTIC — GO LITE FARE
₱499 Manila to Coron (Busuanga), Iloilo, San Jose (Mindoro), Tugo or Virac; Cebu to Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo or Tacloban
₱599 Manila to Bacolod, Catbalogan, Catarman, Cebu, Kalibo, Legazpi or Tuguegarao; Cebu to Dumaguete or Surigao; Davao to Cagayan de Oro
₱699 Manila to Laoag, Puerto Princesa, Tacloban or Tagbilaran; Cebu to Davao or Ozamiz
₱999 Manila to Baracoy (Caticlan), Cauayan (Isabela), Dumaguete or Roxas; Cebu to Baracoy (Caticlan), Butuan, Clark, Dipolog, Puerto Princesa, Siargao or Zamboanga
₱1,199 Cebu to General Santos, Legazpi or Pagadian NEW!
₱1,699 Manila to Surigao NEW!

INTERNATIONAL — GO LITE FARE
₱1,499 Manila to Taipei
₱1,699 Manila to Singapore; Clark to Singapore
₱1,999 Manila to Guangzhou
₱2,299 Clark to Hong Kong or Macau
₱2,499 Manila to Hong Kong, Ho Chi Minh or Macau; Cebu to Hong Kong
₱2,999 Manila to Bangkok; Cebu to Singapore
₱3,499 Clark to Bangkok
₱3,999 Manila to Incheon, Jakarta or Shanghai; Cebu to Busan or Incheon
₱4,999 Manila to Beijing NEW!

INTERNATIONAL — FARE
₱5,999 Manila to Osaka

Booked fares are one-way. Limited availability. Fares are exclusive of government fees and taxes. Fares are non-refundable. Flight changes must be made more than 24 hours before scheduled time of departure. Go Lite Fares are available upon booking for guests traveling without check-in baggage. Add ₱100 to fare upon booking if traveling with check-in baggage. CAB approved fares and conditions of carriage apply and are available online at http://www.cebupacificair.com/Information/Conditions_of_Carriage.aspx. Call (02) 70-20-888 in Manila, (032) 230-88-88 in Cebu or visit the travel agent near you.

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

ROBINSONS BDO

Pacquiao's camp starts on Monday

By Rocco Nacpil Jr.

MANNY PACQUIAO has decided to leave for Baguio early this Sunday with his training camp to officially open the next day followed by a sparring session Tuesday.

He was to have gone early Pacquiao changed his original plan to proceed to Baguio after the final congressional session of the week last yesterday, but Assistant trainer Freddie Roach said he was not the least worried.

"As long as we get there before Sunday so that will be a rest day, the official camp opens on Monday and Tuesday is the first day of sparring," said Roach.

Pacquiao trained for the third straight day at the Johnny Hoskins gym and Roach said he's impressed by the strength of the pound-for-pound king.

"His power is unbelievable," said Roach of Pacquiao who will pack an unprecedented eighth title in eight different weight divisions on Nov. 13 against Antonio Margarito at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

Roach said he felt Pacquiao's body shots despite the protective body guard he was using yesterday's training session.

"I had them even though I wore the pads. They don't help that much," he said.

The sparring partners who arrived with Roach—light welterweights Mitchell Mollon and Glen Tapia—said they are eager to spar with Pacquiao and get him into shape for the UBC super welterweight duel with Margarito.

YANG with his ground coaches

Yang sizzles with 3 golds

JOSHUA BENZ! Yang of Makati Hope Christian School emerged as the most outstanding swimmer in the current Grade Meralco's Interschool Filipino-Chinese School Mixed Course Sprint Championships by winning three gold medals at the Emilio Aguinaldo College swimming center.

The Grade 5 student torpedoed his rivals in the 9-10 event to capture the gold medals in the 50m backstroke, 50m freestyle and 50m butterfly and underscore his potential as a future national swimmer.

Also—a surprise winner in the recent Alaska Swahili duathlon, Yang dominated the 50m backstroke, clocking 35.00 seconds to beat Xavier School's Daniel Adrian Chua 100.31 and St. Jude's Gavin Lanfiguna.

Backed by Hope Toastmaster, Yang exploited 37.20-second in the 50m butterfly and 50.66 in the 50m freestyle to cement himself as prince of the pool.

RACING 2010
BY TOP CHOICE at San Lazaro LP

SBP beats POC deadline, lists Asian Games roster

By Jose Mesmers

SMART GILAS Pilipinas coach Rankie Escosura yesterday named the 12 players who will compete for the Asian Games squad that will compete in Guangzhou, China, starting on Nov. 12.

The names, are etched in stone with the announcement of Marcio Doctolero pending, were led by PBA players Ali Peek, who was tracked by Escosura in Mexico yesterday, and Talk 'N Text forward Billy Williams.

Completing the initial dozen are Chris Tiu, Mark Barroca, Mac Baracael, Greg Slaughter, Japeth Aguilar, JV Casio, Ely-Jan Alimboa, Jason Ballesteros, Wilmelo Landicho and Mikhail Ramos.

Tentative, however, explained Senator Gilas could still make changes with the squad before the managers' meeting a day before the Asian Games kick off.

The most notable change will take place if Double managers can get his Philippine passport in time. Douthit's naturalization is currently being processed at the House of Representatives.

"We can [make changes]," said Escosura. "I think before this team manager's meeting we can replace a player if he's injured."

"The tournament is two months away, and we don't know if something will happen to one, two or maybe five players. Somebody might get injured, so there is a possibility to make the change."

The Serbian mentor is also whipping the team into competitive form in preparation for the Fiba-Asia Championship next year to Beirut, Lebanon, the qualifying event for the 2012 London Olympics.

Landicho, who has played in the Fiba Stankovic Cup last month, is recovering from a dislocated hip in the US and could be replaced.

Tensions has yet to reveal the identity of a third PBA player he wants to be included. Tensions's initial request included Jimmy Alapag, who bagged off for personal reasons.

Rain Or Shine's Gel Mercado and Globalport's Cyrus Baguio are high on the list of possible replacements. Jun Miguel's Arsenal Lumpur and Brandon Bolick's Air Swift and Friends of Pacquiao are also being considered.

Ali has joined Chris Lutz is also hoping to secure his Philippine passport so that he can be among those in the pool of possible replacements.

WILLIAMS TAULAVA ABARROSO BARROCA TIU

Taulava going to Meralco after Asiad

By Manny B. Castillo

IN A DEAL reportedly consummated in Bangkok, many-time Philippine team owner Ato Taulava found his way in the lineup of PBA powerhouse Meralco.

Aside from Taulava's former mother club Fernandez, promised coffee-drinker Rancho Bell was also involved in the trade where the Tigers got very little for the very big stalwart player that they gave up.

The Tigers got Bob Boyd from Rancho Bell, which, in turn, gained journeyman Jason Melvelar and rookie shooting Mirza from Meralco.

Fernandez also got former UAAP MVP Rimar Gallinez for Rancho Bell.

The Bolters, to what Meralco will be known, will see action in the early game slated, also to open up the 36th season on Oct. 3, clashing with Purefoods' Gordon.

The league newcomers had also snagged Mac Cardoza from rainy team Talk N Text about a month ago and could from Gregorio and he's excited in the acquisition of the 6-foot-7 Taulava.

"I will be finished in the next few hours," Gregorio said over the phone last night.

"Ito (Taulava) has been on top of our list for a solid No. 5 locator."

Asked why they gave up Taulava, Fernandez coach Ito Pertierra said: "The way look at a center now is that, the looking back, nothing happened to us with Bobo last year did lineup.

"Secondly, we will take Bobo's answer," Pertierra added. "Because we want changes, we will look at young players, we will look at who we can develop."

Taulava, who was loaned to the former Elite Philgrate five for the Asiad format in November, will be joining the Meralco team. He spent the best years of his career with Talk 'N' Text before he was traded to the Tigers.

The deal has also still returns Dennis Espino to the Tigers' side right now, reliable center.

TERES Guillermo (left) of Mapua gets it smack in the face from Ateneo's Bobby Mandia during their game yesterday ALEX BADAYOS

Cardinals finalize 'NC' Final 4 cast

By Cedrik F. Tapas

A TURBO of triples from sophomore guard Regie Ramirez lowered Mapua to a 64-59 victory over St. Benilde yesterday that gave the Cardinals the last Final Four berth in the 86th NCAA men's basketball tournament at the FilOil Flying V Arena.

The 5-foot-11 Ramirez shot 12 points, all from beyond the arc, in the final period as the Cardinals jacked up three rescued in 9-6 run just his finish, Jun Sebastian and Jun Fidel E in the semifinals.

"Nandoon ang the Final Four to one of our goals this season, and I'm happy we achieved it," said Mapua coach Chino Trinidad, whose squad joined the semifinals last season after three straight Final Four appearances.

"The challenge now now is not for the second of the Letran-San Beda game."

The feisty Cards will in the winning for the Final Four berth with a 6-6 record until the Cardinals downed the Blazers in overtime.

Perpetual Help ended 23 games of futility in the league with a 80-52 drubbing of Emilio Aguinaldo College in the first game.

Arnold Dungcaan finished 15 of his 23 points in the second half, while Jiv Vidal finished with 17 as the Altas registered their first victory since winning over the Generals at the end of the first round last season.

The Altas won for the first time in 11 games

SSC-Adamson V-League final showdown today

By Cedrik F. Tapas

ONE OF the most hard-fought V-League rube series markers in, classic, today as San Sebastian and Adamson clash in just the last time for the Shakey's V-League Season 7 Second Conference crown at the FilOil Flying V Arena in San Juan.

The Lady Stags and the Lady Falcons clash for all the marbles at 4 p.m. with both squads seeking to become the third team to win at least two titles, a feat achieved by UST and La Salle.

Adamson prevailed in a five-set duel in Game 1, before San Sebastian bounced the series with a four-set triumph last Sunday to set the stage for the winner-take-all duel.

"We won Game 2 but it doesn't mean that we have the advantage," said San Sebastian coach Roger Gonzaga.

After losing the first set by the slimmest of margins, the Lady Stags figured out a way to neutralize the Lady Falcons' formidable attacking game as the mid three-timer to complete a 24-26, 25-23, 25-22, 25-20 victory.

That injured Jing Borden, Analyn Bonito and Most Valuable Player Shaianne Flores starred in that victory.

Bonito, one of the most dominant players in three over played to the league, has yet to reduce Valiente career to six titles with the Lady Stags, who bagged the second conference title they count ago with Flores and Jack Wonderjan as guest players.

"Winning the title will be very special for me," the 5-foot-10 Bonito said.

UAAP, NCAA top 4 book Champs League berths

PAR EASTERN U. Ateneo, La Salle and Adamson become the first teams to secure a place in the Sweet 16 Finals of the Champions League (PCCL) 2010 Philippine Collegiate Championship.

The four teams booked automatic spots after reaching the UAAP semifinals last March.

Also assured of spots are NCAA semifinalists San Beda, San Sebastian, Jose Rizal Unival Mapua.

Reynaldo B. Gardiner, chairman of Philippine Collegiate Championship League, announced that the eight collegiate ballers will see the champions and runners-up of the ongoing CESAFI (Cebu Interscholastic).

University of Visayas Green Lancers, University of Cebu Webcasters, and the Southwestern University Cobras are booked in a tight race for the two slots reserved for CESAFI.

The last six seats in the "Sweet 16" Finals are at stake at the usual qualifying games scheduled to be held starting November to Cebu City and Mandaue City.

Nilkmail University Bulldogs and University of the East Warriors are among the favorites to bags into the "Sweet 16" Finals via the road qualifying games.

They will compete in the Luzon/Metro Manila Zonal games to secure their seats to the Finals set at stake.

For more details about the 2010 Philippine Collegiate Championship Games, visit www.CollegiateChampionship.multiply.com

SPORTSWATCH

UGBA derby slated at Makati Coliseum

THE "DWD mixed ambassadors of the United Gymnastic Boosters Association (UGBA) Heritage Cup National & Gang Derby gets going today at Makati Coliseum.

Seeing action in a four-day affair are members from Laguna, Cavite, Pasay, Rizal, Bicol, Southern Province, Batangas and Pangasinan, according to UGBA president Alex Lim.

Meanwhile, other UGBA attractions slated in the following venues: Bacoor, Cavite (Sept. 24); Santa de Antes (Sept. 25); Galleria de Manila (Oct. 1 and 2); Robert's Coliseum Roxas City (Oct. 3); and Bacolod City Coliseum (Oct. 7).

For details, call 5887899 and 7387144 or 0906-2883511.

PBA can use a tribal bridge to the past

BARE EYE

Ronnie Trinidad

THIS WILL be short and hopefully sweet.

PBA players have converged in Bangkok, tribes of them flung to seek ways to relieve the pre league.

Call it to discover a shooting touch.

There are many more fixed up.

But what has stuck out like a sore thumb, even before they departed for the Thai capital, was the continuous league attendance.

...

So, you don't call the PBA population sick, but it's definitely dedicated.

Something is definitely wrong somewhere.

"Somehow, it's a bit of my life," said PBA Commissioner Chito Salud.

The young league database, some in a second and very successful commissioner, did not mince words.

He meant they need a drastic improvement in the numbers.

But was his exact word, drastic, meaning monumental.

...

For starters, halted limited cash to repair socio-Fees (Bolden).

He wonders how many fans but responsible of drawing collateral is feeding, relevant competition.

Salud can only be expected to succeed in the solid manner.

And the more he was rewarded richer that two franchises coming to avoid PBA games where all existing team owner thanks today.

Every definitely is a deeper affection towarding the pro league.

...

The Bangkok planning sessions can only be expected to bear fruits.

The problem is that they may have left behind in their souls a torrid number of crowd fans and preferences.

Something that the group assigned the old days are all gone," one team of the heap told the Inquirer recently.

The fellow's correct.

With are traveled, Andy Salud or they (is, although they definitely know what has gone wrong.

Anyway, fans do let you remember more than it.

All the due simple fact that you have this yearning for the three-tribal drama of old when, over you and what's been rubbing in per league

Yuhai LBA

BONITO

Ready2Race dominates behind Benito, Turalba

READY2RACE GAME, out not as it sized the top three finishers behind Ricky Benito and Julia Turalba recently at the sixth and penultimate leg of the 2010 Magnolia Powerade Karting Super Series at the Clark International Speedway.

Benito made it a double feat as he bagged both the premiere NSK Overall and ROK Junior crowns while Turalba captured the ROK Seniors plum.

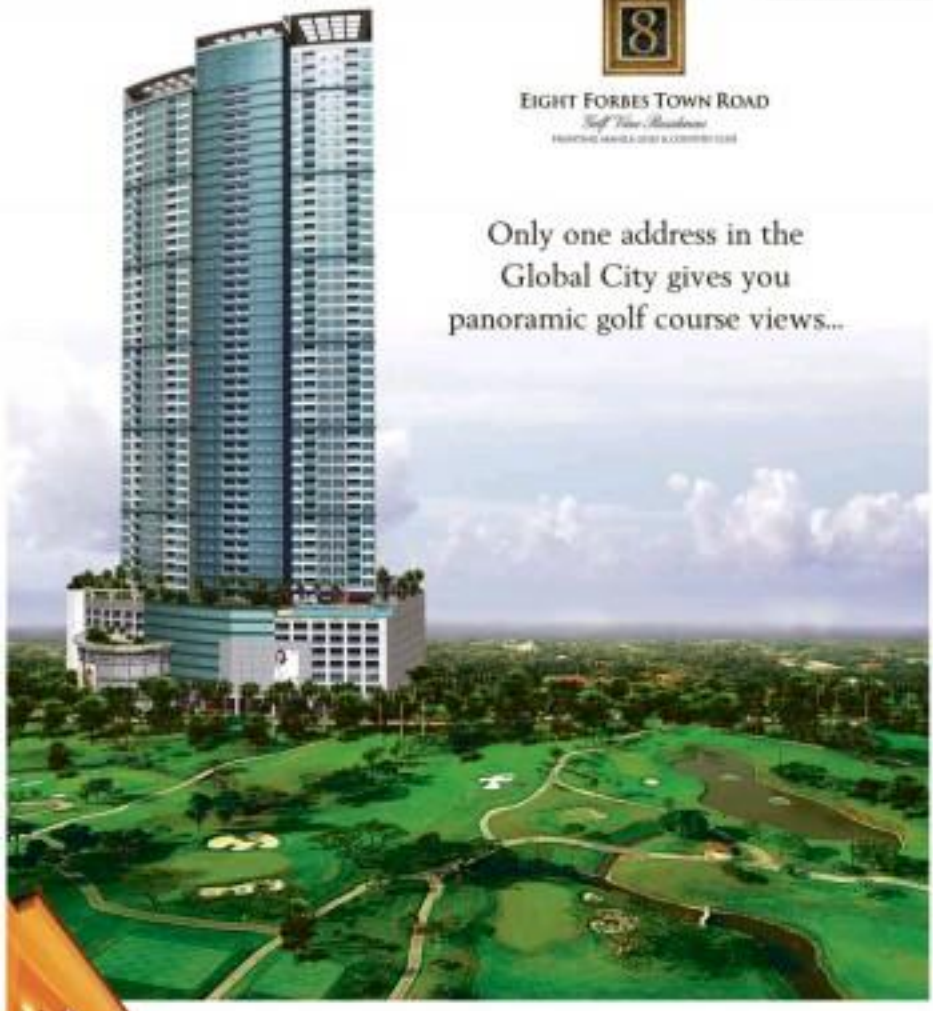
With the victory, Benito closed in on both Xavier of the Year and Junior Karter rounds as he improved to 276 points, just 22 points behind pacesetter Stefano Morales.

Turalba, a Grade 11 student of International School Manila, finished his grip of third place overall in the ROK Senior class with 200 points.

EIGHT FORBES TOWN ROAD

Golf View Residences

Only one address in the Global City gives you panoramic golf course views...



...and instant access to Burgos Circle.

A single address puts you in the best place, hands down, in the Global City. Eight Forbes Town Road. Here, your lifestyle of luxury and privilege is hard to beat. Every day finds you at the choicest side of the Forbes Town Center, the home of the longest Manila golf course views in the city. Your ultra-modern suite brings the outside in, so the experience of tapping nature's bounty has never been this private – in this exclusive. From your infinity pool at the seventh level overlooks the green, making daily recreation as much more relaxing. The location that keeps the busy world at bay also lets you go out on the town just as easily. Walk leisurely to the brand-new Burgos Circle. And take your pick from the excellent restaurants and cafés you can imagine.

At Eight Forbes Town Road, life is everyday in the coming clips.

THE PRIME MANILA GOLF VIEW COMMUNITY

- Luxury getaway address down the Forbes Town Center, the only place in Southern Global City offering the longest stretch – almost half a kilometer – of Manila golf course views
- Choice of one- to three-bedroom golf view residences
- Four-star alfresco amenities such as an infinity pool, a shallow pool with water play, a lap pool, pool deck, playground, outdoor spa, roll-in lap pool, Jacuzzi, sunning deck, garden, covered walks, sitting areas, gym, basic playroom and function rooms at the seventh level
- Two-level retail arcade in the podium, and steps away from the Burgos Circle restaurant scene
- Steps the retail area of Forbes Town Road
- Minutes away from the Makati CBD

Visit us at the Forbes Town Center Showroom,
6th Street corner Road Drive, Crescent Park West District,
Southern Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila

Tels: 815-1888 • 816-2768 • 816-3517

A joint venture of

BONIFACIO WEST

and

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

kotse? simple lang.
PSBank AutO LOAN with PRIME REBATE
Simple lang. Maaasahan.

1 dead, 2 wounded in armed attack

Gunmen open fire on 3 men playing chess in alley in QC

By Nancy C. Carvajal

Fifty armed men carrying high-powered firearms entered Republic Avenue, an alley in Barangay Holy Spirit, Quezon City, at around midnight on Tuesday and fired at a group of men playing chess, killing one of them and wounding two others.

Case officer PO2 Jeguar Hernandez of the Quezon City Police District said Rhalon Marquez, 19, died on the spot due to multiple gunshot wounds.

His companions—Aries Castro, 22, and Ryan Dipon, 20, both residents of the same—were rushed by relatives to East Avenue Medical Center where they remain confined.

Supt. Anthony Yarra said this was the first time a shooting incident took place on Republic Avenue.

"It is the first reported one in this area and we will look into it," he told the Inquirer.

Investigation showed that before the shooting, a crowd was gathered in the alley under a lamp post, watching the victims playing chess.

Barangay Holy Spirit executive officer Benjamin Verzosa said residents usually gather in the alley as eagle-eye where they find it fun to sleep.

"It is where residents throw hang around because it's well lit," he said as he added, "It's not a place but there's always a crowd there."

Police said they were looking into the possibility that the incident could be a case of mistaken identity because the armed men targeted the victims and did not harm other people in the area.

"According to a witness, the suspects left after they confirmed their target was not there," Hernandez said.

He added that a resident told investigators that he heard one of the gunmen tell his companions that the man they were looking for was not in the crowd.

The witness said this was after one of the armed men pointed his gun at him but did not fire when he saw his face.

The barangay official, however, said that Castro, who was wounded, could be the target of the gunmen and that his companion may be in the crossfire.

He added that Castro had just been released from detention after he got involved in a brawl.

A FIREFIGHTER trains his hose on the smoking remains of a house in Barangay Pio del Pilar, Makati City, as his co-workers look on. MARIO CAYABYAB

Fire leaves 50 families homeless

By Tina D. Santos

A FIRE apparently caused by a leaking liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tank hit a community of informal settlers in Makati City yesterday morning, leaving some 50 families homeless.

No one was reported injured or killed in the fire which raged for an hour and a half, according to Fire Officer 3 Jessie Asuncion of the Makati Central Fire Station.

The blaze, which reached the fourth alarm, started at 5:30 a.m. in a house in the area called Urban Redevelopment at the corner of Amorsolo and Dela Rosa Streets, just in front of Makati Medical Center.

The flames spread quickly to more than a dozen other houses that were made mainly of light materials.

Before it broke out, Jojo Vivar said his son was cooking when he noticed that the LPG tank he was using was leaking, Asuncion said.

The fire was declared under control at 6:29 a.m. before it was put out 30 minutes later.

The estimated value of damage to property was pegged at P200,000.

Makati gov't forms committee to probe West Tower oil leak

By Tina D. Santos

THE MAKATI City government has formed an inter-agency committee to investigate the source of an oil leak at the 22-story West Tower condominium in Barangay Bangkal, Makati City.

Jerry Salgado, city public information officer, said the team would be composed of personnel from the city departments of ecology, energy and health.

"Within the week, the team will begin to probe, assess and recommend what actions need to be taken," he told the Inquirer.

Salgado added that representatives from the barangay, West Tower residents and First Philippine Industrial Corp. (FPIC) would also form part of the investigating team.

FPIC, the operator of the country's largest commercial pipeline located just a few meters away from the condominium, has started to make sure that the area near the building is downstream if the leak is coming from its system.

The pipeline transports oil from refineries in Batangas province to the Pandacan oil depot in Manila.

"FPIC's commitment is to finish the ground penetrating radar scanning within seven days. Then they need another five days for the analysis," Salgado said as he added that the team results would be forwarded to the city government.

The West Tower basement has been cleared of floodwater but the oil leak, which was first detected on July 12, has yet to be contained.

To date, more than 90,000 liters of water contaminated with oil have been collected from the basement since July 23.

DID YOU KNOW

DURING the 8:30 bus awards of the company priest of SEA, M E basically contact Metro Manila, a quarter of 17.11 percent from the same period last year, according to figures from the Department of Tourism.
Edita Pacheco, Inquirer Research

OVERCOMING BALDNESS

THINK-A-HEAD

No man likes being bald. He may try to ignore it, but deep inside, there's a nagging feeling that life has been unfair. Why me? Why have I gone bald when my friends haven't? Many men sadly accept looking older, being called "Baldie," feeling out of attractive to the opposite sex and pushing up with the other handicaps baldness brings – both socially and career wise.

Other men refuse to accept baldness and look for a way out – this is when a wrong decision can lead to an even worse state of frustration and despair. Below you can anything about baldness, read the answers to these most asked questions.

Q. I DON'T LIKE BEING BALD – WHAT CAN I DO?

A. There are basically two ways to go. Some men opt for a surgical hair transplant. Others for the non-surgical alternative. When making the decision there's one essential rule: THINK-A-HEAD – it's not only the immediate results that are so important, it's what your head is going to look like in a few years.

Q. OK, SO WHAT ABOUT SURGICAL TRANSPLANTS?

A. Some say transplants have come a long way since the early days, others say they haven't come far enough. Basically, the surgical process involves taking donor hair from elsewhere on the recipient's head and transplanting it to the balding areas.

Q. DOES TRANSPLANTED HAIR CONTINUE TO GROW?

A. If the surgery has been performed well, the transplanted hair will continue to grow, as it did before it was moved.

Q. CAN ANY BALD MAN HAVE A TRANSPLANT?

A. It's not really possible for a man with advanced baldness because he simply would not have sufficient donor hair to cover his large bald area. Transplants do not increase the number of hairs on a man's head, it's just a case of redistributing them. Transplants are excellent for filling in smaller areas or adding extra hair to thinning parts where there is not expected to be further hairloss.

Q. ARE THERE ANY PROBLEMS WITH TRANSPLANTS?

A. For men whose baldness will not advance further, there seems little downside to having a transplant.

Q. BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF I CONTINUE TO GO BALD?

A. For those whose baldness continues to advance, there can be significant problems. While the transplanted hair will carry on growing, his other hair becomes thin in contrast as he progressively goes bald. He can have further transplants, but it's likely donor hair will become insufficient as the slower areas do not re-grow hair. The result might be patches of thicker-growing hair among thinning and sparse hair – and this won't take long to happen. The ensuing odd appearance of the man's head can cause him further embarrassment and stress. Speed of hairloss varies, but for most it takes just a few short years from thinning to full-blown baldness.

If a man suffers from Male Pattern Baldness, which usually strikes when he's in his early twenties or thirties, his hairloss will likely continue until he's bald. This is where the catchphrase INTAK-A-HEAD comes into play. Think what your head will look like in a few years after surgical transplanting – will you want to go out in public?

Q. I DON'T WANT THAT RISK, SO WHAT'S THE ALTERNATIVE?

A. The non-surgical alternative is TCH or Transdermal Cosmetic Reconstruction. It's a super-fine synthetic skin with hair sent to be actually growing into it, which is then bonded to your scalp.

Q. IS TCH FOR ANYONE, NO MATTER HOW BALD HE MIGHT BE?

A. Yes, this advanced system is ideal for any state of hairloss and baldness, even for those with only a small amount of hair at the back and sides – the sort of baldness which is really not suitable for a transplant.

Q. HOW REAL IS TCH, WILL IT LOOK DODGY?

A. TCH is real, natural hair, which looks and feels as if it's growing from your scalp. TCH cannot be distinguished from your own hair, even by touching. You are not "wearing" it, it's part of you.

Q. DOES TCH REQUIRE SPECIAL CARE?

A. To keep TCH perfect, you need only visits to the stylist every two or three weeks, just as any man does for the cutting and styling of his hair. As you get older, your TCH can be subtly aged and grayed, just as your full head of hair would have looked. And you are not left any.

Q. IT SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE – WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

A. There are no problems. You can do anything with TCH. It's your new full head of hair. It feels totally natural on your head – you're not aware of it. The only times you'll be reminded that you're no longer bald is when you look in the mirror and how others react to you – remember, you're going to look years younger!

Q. IS TCH AVAILABLE IN MANILA?

A. Yes, it's available in Manila at Ironman, the hair replacement specialists.

Q. IS TCH SUITABLE FOR ME?

A. To find out if your scalp condition and skin type are suitable for the TCH procedure, book a no-cost TCH hair-finding consultation by calling 892-4297.

NCRPO gears up for barangay, SK polls

JUST A DRILL
Children in Tanauan, Village Civil Defense in a mock drill at a river in Marikina City, one of the hardest hit areas when Tropical Storm "Ondoy" (Ketsana) struck Metro Manila last year. —AP

By Miko Morales

COMMANDED to the May elections, the upcoming barangay polls are more "structured" in the sense that candidates interact with their constituents more often and then, what is at stake are not just barangay posts but the whole barangay power itself as it is communally accessible in Director Leocadio Santiago Jr.

"Barangay elections tend to affect the relationships among residents and families because the people and their leaders are each other," the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) chief told reporters when asked about the differences between national and local elections.

Santiago, however, said the police would implement the Comelec's "gun ban" as well as the May elections for the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan polls this October.

Yesterday, he met with his counterpart in the military and the Commission on Elections Director Manolo Bautista to discuss security measures for the conduct of the synchronized elections.

"Libreto Sept. 21, we will be enrolling 18 security personnel assigned to VIPs like politicians. A gun ban will likewise be enforced," Santiago said.

He urged politicians and other personalities to immediately file a request if they want to keep their bodyguards during the election period to be processed to see on their applications "expeditiously."

Present during the meeting were Maj. Gen. Arthur Tabaquero, chief of the National Capital Region Command, and Comelec NCR Director Michael Rosario Santiago said.

While no election hotspots were identified during the meeting, Santiago said the discussion were focused mostly on the setting up of a joint election center where authorities would be able to monitor the conduct of the polls.

He added that the formation of checkpoint teams was also taken up with the officials agreeing that a composite team from the Comelec, military and police would man the checkpoints to ensure the effective implementation of the gun ban and other election related regulations.

Security officials also cooperated that the security measures be implemented beyond the mandated period, particularly during the holiday season, Santiago said.

While the enforcement of a gun ban until the holiday season would solely depend on a directive from the chief of the Philippine National Police, Santiago pointed out that checkpoints would still be implemented as a deterrent to criminals who usually step up their illegal activities during the holidays.

DOTC motion on MRT taxes dismissed

By Tess G. Samar

CITING lack of merit, a Makati regional trial court has dismissed a petition of the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) and Rail 3 LRT Corp. Ltd. (MRTC) questioning tax assessments of Metro Rail Transit (MRT) stations located in the city.

The decision of Makati RTC Branch 66 Judge Jocelyn Solis-Lanzas dated Sept. 10 affirmed the city government's claim that the Metro Rail Transit Corp. is liable for real property taxes amounting to P1,228,702,246.38 in 2004.

The assessed value has now reached over P3 billion, according to a memorandum issued by the city government.

The city's treasury department has been asking MRTC to pay realty taxes for several years now, but the company claims it is exempt from appropriation by the terms of its build-lease-transfer agreement with DOTC.

The court ruled that MRTC, being the true owner of the property, should be held liable for taxes, adding that "the alternative prayer of MRTC to direct DOTC to withdraw or pay the real property taxes in the assessment of Makati City, is hereby denied for lack of evidence."

With the recent decision, Makati is even more determined to collect from MRTC, sources from the government say, noting that Guadalupe, Pembo, Ayala and Magallanes stations.

Several demand letters were sent by Makati to MRTC, urging the latter to pay real property taxes, but these were apparently ignored.

Willie asks court to junk ABS-CBN claim

By Nancy Carvajal

TELEVISION host Willie Revillame, who was reported to have earned P40 million a month by hosting a daily noontime show on television, has asked a Quezon City court to ignore the "unfounded" counterclaims" filed by his former employer ABS-CBN, describing the claim to half a billion peso amount as "horrendous."

The petition filed by Revillame in Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 84, Revillame also asked to be allowed to present evidence ex parte, or without the representation or participation of defendant ABS-CBN as the said counterclaim filed by the network is "without basis in fact and in law."

Revillame's petition is for the judicial confirmation of the rescission of his contract to host of the show "Showtime" aired over the giant network.

The TV personality also requested the court to be allowed to present on Sept. 30 evidence of his plea for a confirmation of the rescission of his contract.

In his petition, the TV host also requested the court not to give weight to the counterclaim filed by the TV network because of the failure to pay the docket fee.

"Individual ABS-CBN did not deign to, as it did not, pay the required docket fee. Consequently, the compulsory counterclaims asserted by ABS-CBN should be dismissed for failure to pay the docket fee," the motion said.

"It is as if no answer was filed by defendant ABS-CBN within the reglementary period, as a result, the network should be declared in default," it added.

The TV host had filed a P11.5-billion damage suit vid for extinction of contract in August after a falling out with the network's management.

ABS-CBN last week filed its counterclaims against Revillame, asking the court to order the TV host to pay P426 million in damages for breach of contract and P25 million each for moral damages, exemplary damages and attorney's fees.

ANTI-POLLUTION DRIVE
A member of Quezon City's Environmental Protection and Waste Management Protection Department checks the smoke emission of a truck on Visayas Avenue, Quezon City. The quality of air in Metro Manila has worsened after DENR tests showed an increase in suspended solid or liquid particles. —EDDY CAMPOS

SPARGATING!
featuring the cast of
PETRANG KABAYO
October 3, 2010 - Sunday
5:00 pm
Glorietta 2 Atrium

EXPERIENCE IT BEST
NOW SHOWING AT
AYALA MALLS CINEMAS
3D
DIGITAL CINEMAS
GLORIETTA 4 - GREENBELT 5
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
MARKET! MARKET! - BGC
TRIBECA
SPIDERMAN BRINGS TO LIFE
BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES The City of Makati
Directed by Joy Virata
Choreographed by Nonoy Froilan
Book by Jose Dalisay
Music by Jose Nilo and Jaime Bulgo
Lyrics by Jose Dalisay
Based on the Fairytale by Charles Perrault

Gov. Baby Pineda a 'jueteng' queen?

ON TARGET
Ryan Rosauro Zalla

PAMPANGA Gov. Lilia "Baby" Pineda doesn't deny her links to "numero," even stating this information once, in jest, that I should not be talking as a "jueteng queen."

She is to sudden late husband Bong who told a Senate hearing years ago that he didn't even know how to play the illegal numbers game.

"What alternative likelihood has the government given to cabo [suppressors] and collectors?" Baby asked.

The Pampanga governor says more than 100,000 people in Central and Northern Luzon depend on jueteng for livelihood.

These are dependents of cabos and collectors who number about 20,000, she said.

Baby said she is willing to free the financier and the jueteng if she is summoned by the Senate.

The governor, however, said she and her husband have gone legit through the Small Town Lottery (STL).

Baby says part of her poverty alleviation program for the province involves leasing 1,000 hectares of land for farming in the meantime, the ancestral domain of the Aetas.

Former cabos and collectors or members of their families, as well as Aetas, will be offered jobs in the vegetable farms and orchards.

The provincial government will provide agricultural tools, such as plows, carabaos and fertilizer for the would-be farmers for startups.

The governor said she would also enlist the help of other government agencies, like the Department of Agriculture, whose experts can teach farming to farmers.

She stressed that she is trying to wean away cabos and collectors from the illegal numbers game by giving them options.

But said if the government finds alternative jobs for the thousands of people dependent on jueteng, how will the government save their meager pangs if the game is banned altogether?

When Robert "Bobby" Barbers was secretary of interior and local government, jueteng operations stopped in many parts of Luzon, as well as metro, its counterpart in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Bobby Barbers, who later became senator, took a "no take" policy on jueteng and numero.

The result was an increased incidence in drug abuse, in many areas and collectors became drug pushers instead.

The government is given a rough deal in betting or drugs.

The solution is to legalize jueteng and make all the present cabos and collectors become employees of the legal numbers game.

The reason most local officials and legislators don't want to legalize jueteng is because they get protection money from it.

Bong and Baby Pineda have invested out to legitimate businesses like restaurant, real estate and construction.

They can afford to have the illegal numbers game operate.

But they have a point we cannot ignore.

They just can't have their cabos and collectors just like that.

One very real fear is that many families could go hungry, or worse, become drug pushers if the illegal numbers game are stopped completely.

I'm reminded of the Pinedas.

Bong is my compadre — our synod as sponsors in several weddings in the past.

Whenever I get requests for medicines and hospital confinement from poor people, which were sired on my friendship was for "Baby" public service shows in the past, the Pinedas were always quick to respond to my appeals for help.

They have always been generous in their donations.

The residential compound of the couple in Lubao is permanently left of hundreds of poor people seeking medical help.

The Pineda compound is a medical mission in progress every day.

METRO BRIEFS

Stevedore shot dead

A STEVEDORE belonging to the jail bonus gang, Segue-Segue Syndicate, was shot dead by an unidentified man-only motorcycle morning in Manila for still undetermined motive. Pronounced dead is Daniel B. Manalo, 29 a resident of Manila Street in Binondo, was overseeing Recto corner Juan Luna Street with two bus in custody. Minutes to Binondo police he was shot twice in the body. Witnesses identified by policemen as about 40 years old, of slim build, with dark skin and between 5'7"-5'8" in height, escaped by running toward Abad Santos Avenue, a report by PO1 Antonio G. Laguna said. The motivation of the shooting was still under investigation. A report of the crime operations team led by Chief Insp. Rolando Galvez also revealed the scene for possible clues in the killer's identity while Manalo's body was transferred to Harold Funeral Parlor for autopsy.

—By Yap

Job fair for seamen

IN SUPPORT of National Maritime Week, leading overseas services provider, Total Communications Inc. (Smart), will hold a job fair for the benefit of the country's seafarers. Installed through its Smart Link Satellite service, Sun and with the Manila City government, Bobby Ritchie and the Philippine Ports, holding to offer various local and international job opportunities to thousands of Filipino seamen who are expected to attend the event at the University Belt by Center of Pennsylvania on Longboat by Maysilo. Held being together leading local and international shipping and manning agencies. Participants of the job fair will also be treated to seminars on free, medical examinations, free health consultations courtesy of Smart, and free shuttle services from various points of Manila. Entrance is free of charge.

1st Ayurveda, Yoga meet

"ARTLIFE to All" is the theme of the First International Ayurveda, Yoga and Wellness Convention scheduled on Sept. 29-30, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the College of Dental Medicine, University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. Registration and details for lectures, workshops and activities are online at www.ayurvedaphilippines.com. For further inquiries, call 7-972-2924 or 9173473. Experts from abroad and all others interested in alternative treatments relating to life will provide guidance through the eight areas of their philosophy of life.

MANIFESTO

EXPRESSING INDIGNATION OVER SWEEPING AND UNFOUNDED ACCUSATIONS AGAINST GOVERNOR AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.

We, the undersigned elected provincial officials of the Province of Pangasinan, motivated by our sincere faith in a strong leadership and a deep conviction for the steady progress and development of the Province of Pangasinan, solemnly declare the following:

That we acknowledge the invaluable role and unparalleled efforts of Governor Amado T. Espino, Jr. in the transformation of Pangasinan as a premier province of our country;

That we convey our displeasure over the patently biased and utterly speculative accusations attributed to our leader who has a long record of accomplishments, an unquestionable political will, a deep sense of love for Pangasinan and a commitment to uplift the lives of Pangasinenses;

That we recognize Governor Espino's speedy and aggressive actions geared towards the eradication of peace and order problems, including illegal activities within the Province of Pangasinan;

That we are aware that Governor Espino has exerted efforts to extinguish "jueteng" in the Province of Pangasinan because the operations thereof is illegal per se;

That our continuing consultations with our constituents reveal that the so-called "all of society" known as *jueteng* which has long been existing in all corners of the archipelago has somehow generated needed income for them for the daily sustenance of their families;

That we realize that the best way to eradicate *jueteng* is to raise the living conditions of the people and to create more livelihood opportunities for them;

That we are fully cognizant of the fact that under Governor Espino's administration which commenced in 2007, Pangasinan has steadily earned recognition because of positive developments in the areas of tourism, health, agriculture, peace and order, education, social service, environmental protection, and peace and order concerns;

That evidently, Governor Espino has succeeded in creating a conducive atmosphere for investments and other economic activities in the Province of Pangasinan;

That we strongly urge our Chief Executive not to be affected, much less disturbed by malicious insinuations cast against his personality which are probably intended to distract him and his efforts to care for the needs of the province;

That we despise the inclusion of Governor Espino's name in the list of jueteng lords and operators provided by retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz during a Senate Blue Ribbon Committee hearing;

That it is our common sentiment that anybody who malevolently attempts to destroy the credibility of the Governor and endeavors to divert his attention from excellently performing his task of steering the province towards progress and development should be declared as *persona non grata* in the Province of Pangasinan;

That we are one in saying that Governor Espino's dedication to the service for Pangasinan and its people remains to be the primary reason why Pangasinan is now in its peak of development and the Pangasinenses of today could not be much prouder for having a Chief Executive who has rightfully earned the distinction of being called "*the Best Governor*" of Pangasinan;

That we publicly express our confidence in the leadership of Governor Amado T. Espino, Jr. and convey our unwavering and unequivocal support to him as Chief Executive of the Province of Pangasinan.

Done this 21st day of September, 2010 in Lingayen, Pangasinan.

JOSE FERDINAND T. CALIMLIM, JR.
Vice Governor

SPM JEREMY GERICO B. ROSARIO
SPM ANGEL C. BANIQUED
SPM VON MARK R. MENDOZA
SPM NAPOLEON C. FONTELERA, JR.
SPM TEODULO G. DE MILDE, JR.
SPM RAUL P. SIMON
SPM GENEROSO G. TULAGAN, JR.
SPM MOHAMMAD R. LIBUNAO, JR.
SPM CLEMENTE B. ARBOLEDA, JR.
SPM DANILO C. UY
SPM ALFONSO G. RINCE, JR.
SPM RANJIT R. SHAHANI
SPM AMADO T. ESPINO
SPM KAREL C. CELESTE
SPM MARIA ISABEL C. VILLACORTA

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Greco

UN dev't goals get new aid pledges

UNITED NATIONS—A three-day summit to push global leaders to meet UN goals to significantly reduce poverty by 2015 wraps up on Wednesday with new financial pledges from countries but no certainty there will be enough money and political commitment to meet the targets.

With many countries under financial pressure from the effects of the global economic crisis and well as rising food and energy prices, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has repeatedly urged governments not to abandon the 1 billion people living on less than $1.25 a day.

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Nek Chand, in prepared remarks for delivery on the fifth and last Millennium Development Goals summit on Wednesday, urged other countries to show the same resolve as Pakistan in meeting their aid commitments, despite the fallout from the financial meltdown.

Chand pointed to "fragile spaces—like Afghanistan—where basic law, livelihood and terrorist attacks can be planned, where organized criminals can harvest the drugs that ravage our streets, where families are persecuted, displaced, pushed to seek refuge with us."

"We are the new war-like Hiltons, the psychological Gotas (MGAs) and the economic vampires for the new lands," he said. "They are not simply close by, we are their prime physician. They are also the key to lasting safety and future prosperity for the people of the United Kingdom."

Afghan Foreign Minister Zalmai Rassoul told the leaders on Tuesday that the lack of security in his country remains the main hurdle for the UN to achieve the anti-poverty goals.

"The enemies of peace and stability in Afghanistan are still active, orchestrating well-planned attacks against schools, clinics, markets, doctors, government employees and even young children, particularly school girls," Rassoul said. "Unfortunately, most of the attacks continue against humanitarian aid organizations and State personnel."

"The world leaders are reviewing efforts to implement an ambitious goals adopted in a summit in 2000. There has been some success in poverty, but still, meeting universal primary education, halting and reversing the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and cutting child and maternal mortality—all by 2015.

More than 140 presidents, prime ministers and kings are attending the three-day summit which started on Monday and many will be remaining in New York for the General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting which begins on Thursday.

The summit's finale on Wednesday addresses in the afternoon's closing session by US President Barack Obama, Danish Premier Lars Rasmussen and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan.

The UN secretary general will be launching a global campaign on Wednesday on the sidelines of the summit to spur action on three goals where progress has been lagging—reducing the number of women dying during pregnancy and childbirth by three-quarters, cutting the number of children who die before their fifth birthday by two-thirds, and preventing equality for women.

Ban on Tuesday said that an estimated $28 billion to $42 billion would be needed annually to meet targets on women's and children's health between 2011 and 2015. UN officials said Ban would be announcing billions of dollars in new pledges at Wednesday's event.

Ban has said the world is "on track" to cut extreme poverty by half, the No. 1 goal, by 2015 though some critics say it's mainly because of the big strides in China and India.

Reports have shown that the world's poorest countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, have made little progress in eradicating poverty. And the United Nations said that at the current rates of progress, the world would miss the target of cutting in half the proportion of people without basic sanitation.

ING supports FINEX Search for Financial Excellence

Photo shows (L to R) CFO of the Year Awards Chairman Lorenzo Manglili, FINEX President Greg Hawkins, ING Group Managing Director and Country Head Corporate Bank and CFO of the Year Awards EVP and Trustee Director and Founding Chairman Victoria Singer

ING Bank, the world leader in banking, insurance, and investment services joins forces once again with the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (FINEX) to recognize the country's most outstanding Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with the fourth CFO of the Year Awards.

The prized CFO of the Year Awards honor CFOs who have provided outstanding contributions in their company's success and who have shown commendable leadership in the field of finance. Among the criteria nominees must manifest are sound ethical compass, clarity and focus, adaptability, and effective communication skills.

"Outstanding CFOs must be very strategic and must have integrity. However, with the ever changing role of CFOs, they must now also be savvy enough to not only craft the correct message but also be able to articulate it well," said Consuelo Garcia, managing director and country head of ING Bank.

FINEX President Greg Hawkins also stresses how possessing emotional self-confidence is an important trait of today's CFOs.

"Self-confidence allows CFOs to properly guide and motivate those in their team. They have to be able to command loyalty and trust among their peers and at the same time be open-minded," he said.

Through the awards, ING, together with FINEX seeks to continue the tradition of excellence, leadership, and integrity that will inspire a legacy that future generations of financial leaders can aspire to, and at the same time, encourage the influx of foreign investments.

"ING is committed to supporting market opportunities and encourage investments to the Philippines. A well-run company with a very good CFO presents a very good alternative to investors who are considering the country," Garcia said.

The CFO of the Year awards is open to all CFOs belonging to private and government owned and controlled corporations and financial institutions in the Philippines. Candidates will be evaluated based on the IMD-FINEX set criteria and on their performance for the financial year 2009.

For more information, contact the FINEX secretariat at 811-8282 or visit www.finex-org.ph.

China threatens Japan over boat row

FRIENDS Wen Tokyo will bear all consequences.

BEIJING—China's premier threatened serious reprisals against Japan if Tokyo does not immediately release a ship captain detained in his first ever encounter with a growing flight over disputed islands.

Premier Wen Jiabao's remarks on Tuesday night in New York were reported by a top Chinese leader on the issue that has led Beijing to suspend ministerial-level contacts with Tokyo. China also has said Wen would not meet with Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan during UN meetings in New York this week.

In comments carried on the official website of China's foreign ministry, Wen told the visiting foreign diplomats directly at Japan's door.

Tokyo "bears full responsibility for the situation, and it will bear all consequences," he said in a gathering of overseas Chinese.

China-Japan relations are at their worst in a decade, after Japan arrested the Chinese captain of a fishing boat that collided two weeks ago with Japanese coast guard vessels near islands in the East China Sea claimed by both nations. Japan extended his detention Sunday, and China responded by suspending contacts.

The dispute over the islands, known as Senkaku by Japan and Diaoyu or Diaoyutai in Chinese, comes as an increasingly confident China—its economy becoming and military expanding—moves increasingly assertive in the region.

A Japanese government spokesman made a conciliatory gesture on Wednesday morning, but it was not clear if he was aware of Wen's comments at the time.

"If possible, it would be good to quickly hold high-level talks, including bilateral, strategic discussions," Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshito Sengoku told reporters, saying that the countries should continue to strengthen their ties despite the dispute.

On Sunday, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Jiang Yu was pictured that Wen would not be meeting Japan's Kan in New York because "the atmosphere is obviously not suitable for such a meeting."

Anti-Japanese protests have already flared in numerous locations around China, and the dispute has spilled into cultural ties. Beijing abruptly canceling invitations to 1,000 Japanese youth to the Shanghai expo and the Japanese pop group AKB48 has called off a concert in Shanghai.

Also, activists from Hong Kong, mainland China and Taiwan have vowed to sail private boats to the islands in support of the territorial claims, though most of those plans were thwarted by official pressure.

Seven activists from the southern Chinese territory of Hong Kong set sail for the islands on Wednesday in a fishing vessel slightly larger than a private yacht. They were followed by a marine police boat but weren't immediately stopped.

Hong Kong's police department on Thursday said a letter to the owner of the fishing boat banning it from entering Several Hong Kong waters on the suspicion that it may take a confrontational. If the order is defied, officials will take "appropriate action," said a department spokesperson, Yvonne Mak.

The growing dispute loom a row on Sept. 29, the deadline by which Japanese prosecutors must decide whether to charge the Chinese captain. The 14 crew members and boat have been released.

INDUSTRY LEADERS UNITE FOR FAMILY WELL-BEING

Fast food giant Jollibee, together with the country's leading drugstore Mercury Drug Corporation and top pharmaceutical company Pfizer launched a major initiative advocating overall family health and well-being.

"This partnership is a strategic move for us to further show appreciation to the Filipino family," said Sophie Gonzales, Pfizer's Associate Business Development Manager. "By tying up with Jollibee and Mercury Drug via this promotion, we are making our promotions significant and more relevant to every member of the family because in addition to the health benefits of Pfizer products, consumers can also enjoy their favorite Jollibee treats", added Gonzales.

To avail of the freebies this August to September, patrons of participating Mercury Drugstores in Metro Manila and Rizal just have to buy Pfizer products with specially-marked Jollibee stickers. They can bring this sticker to any Jollibee store to claim free delicious treats such as the Yumburger, Jolly Hotdog Twin, Peach Mango Pie, Jolly Crispy Fries and the Jollibee Number. Participating Pfizer products include Caltrate, Centrum Silver, Inceptin, Diuretol and Robitussin.

"Through this promo, we are happy to share Jollibee's langhap-sarap choices as treats to those who prioritize their family's well-being," said Ann Bernadette Jollibee Natividad Rey, Accounts head. "We are also looking forward to more projects with Pfizer Consumer Healthcare and Mercury Drug as we take our advocacy to promote the well-being of Filipino families a step further."

Families only have until September 31, 2010 to get these specially-marked Pfizer products or participating Mercury Drug stores. Redemption period for Jollibee treats is until November 30, 2010. See posters for more details.

Jollibee is thrilled by the team of Pfizer Consumer Healthcare during the MOA signing. (L-R) Jollibee Vice President for Marketing Services Darling Michelle Ma. Cristi Dela Cruz, Sophie Gonzales, Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Vice Pres. Lic. Marlon Cesario Amador Del Rey)

Industry leaders Jollibee, Pfizer and Mercury Drug forge a partnership to promote family well-being. (Seated, L-R) Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Vice Accounts manager Aileen Del Rey, Jollibee National Key Accounts head Ann Bernadette Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Head of Sales Marlon Cesario, Jollibee Vice President for National Sales Head Corporate Banquet Yap, Mercury Drug Corporation Vice President for purchasing Lucy Co, Jollibee Vice President for Marketing Services Maria Michelle Ma. Cristi Dela Cruz, Jollibee Business Development manager Sophie Rhea Gonzales.

WORLD BRIEFS

Probers seize $10M from Vatican

MILAN—Italian anti-Mafia police seized euro23 million ($30 million) from a Vatican bank account and said they had begun investigating top officials of the Vatican bank in connection with a money laundering probe. The Vatican said it was "astonished and surprised" by the investigation. Italian financial police and prosecutors in Rome on Tuesday said prosecutors placed the Vatican bank's chief and director general under investigation for alleged crimes taken linked to violations of Italy's anti-laundering laws. AP

Bishop accused of coercing males

ATLANTA—Two men have filed a lawsuit accusing Bishop Eddie Long of exploiting his role as pastor of an Atlanta-area megachurch to coerce them into sexual relationships when they were young members of his congregation. Lawyers for the men, one 20 and 21, said they filed the lawsuit on Tuesday. Doug Dillon, Long's attorney, said the pastor "categorically denies the allegations." AP

Swiddlewere compromise hinted at

JERUSALEM—The Palestinian president has left the door open to continuing peace negotiations with Israel even if Israel doesn't extend a construction freeze in the West Bank, offering a glimmer of hope that a compromise will be reached in a key dispute that has threatened to torpedo the talks in its nascent days. But in a reminder of the fragile negotiating climate, an Israeli security guard shot and killed a Palestinian man on a remote road in Jerusalem's neighborhood early Wednesday, sparking a small riot in the area. AP

Wind may have parted Red Sea

WASHINGTON—Moses might not have parted the Red Sea, but a strong east wind that blew through the night could have pushed the waters back in the way described in biblical writings and the Koran, US researchers reported on Tuesday. Computer simulations, part of a larger study on how winds affect water, show wind could push water back at 3,000 yards at a time and to create a path in coastal lagoon, according to the team at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and the University of Colorado. Reuters

Typhoon flooding kills 18 in China

BEIJING—Heavy rains from the strongest storm to hit China this year continued to threaten the south on Wednesday after causing flooding and landslides that have killed 18 people so far and left at least 44 missing, officials said. Typhoon Fanapi swamped coastlines province after making a direct hit on the island of Taiwan on Sunday and killing two there. AP

Court won't block woman's execution

RICHMOND—The US Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to block the execution of a woman convicted in two killings, clearing the way for the state's first execution of a woman in nearly a century. Teresa Lewis, 41, is scheduled to die by injection Thursday for ordering an ex-lover to kill her husband and stepson in October 2002 so she could collect on a $250,000 insurance pay out. AP

Japan bars Paris Hilton

TOKYO—Paris Hilton was denied entrance into Japan on Wednesday, two days after she pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor drug charge in Las Vegas. Japan's strict immigration officials find her entry to those convicted of drug offenses, although exceptions are occasionally granted. AP

Dog poop powers park lamp

CAMBRIDGE—It stinks and it's a hazard to walkers everywhere, but it turns out dog poop has a bright side. Dog poop lighting a lantern of a dog park in Cambridge, Massachusetts, as part of a breakthrough project to get people thinking about recycling waste. After dog shoppers bag their pets' waste and deposit it into the left pack. People then turn a wheel to stir its contents, which contain waste and water. Microbes in the waste give off methane, an odorless gas that is fed through the bottle to the lamp and burned off. AP

Romania austerity plan protested

BUCHAREST—More than 5,000 Romanians have gathered to protest against wage cuts and austerity measures as the country remains mired in recession. The protesters on Wednesday demanded that the government increase spending in the 2010 level and stop months of public anxiety. Authorities have slashed public sector wages and raised the sales tax to reduce the budget deficit. Romania received $20 billion in bailout loans from the IMF, the European Union and the World Bank in 2009. The country needs another $7.1 billion more next year. AP

IN THIS ISSUE
■ SM Investments readies $850-M bond swap offer /B2

Editor Raul G. Marcelo ■ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano

BUSINESS

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Gov't posted P275B in net borrowings in 8 months /B5

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
Sept. 22, 2011
43.880

STOCK MARKET
Sept. 22, 2011
33.93

Stocks down on profit-taking

LOCAL STOCKS retreated from a record high yesterday as investors took advantage of mixed overnight trading in Wall Street to look for gains.

The main index Philippine Stock Exchange index (here) 32.93 points or 0.83 percent to close at 4,084.16.

Dealers said the correction

/STOCKS B6

Mindanao power supply critical

Gov't rushes measures to avert crisis in fourth quarter

By Amy R. Remo

EXPECTING A tight power supply in the fourth quarter, the Department of Energy has started mobilizing short-term solutions for Mindanao, including the possible rehabilitation of power plants currently placed under "preservation" mode.

"We had an emergency meeting to discuss the current power situation as well as make preparations for the power requirements in the last quarter of the year in Mindanao. Details of proposed solutions are currently being studied due to legal and technical reports," said Energy Secretary Jose Rene D. Almendras.

Almendras said that studies were being undertaken for the various options that could be implemented, which also included demand-side management and the use of available power-generation facilities "in a manner that will not drive the electricity cost too high."

He said all committed energy projects would continue to meet weekly until a viable short-term solution has been put in place. These agencies included National Power Corp., National Electrification Administration, National Transmission Corp. and Philippine Grid Corp. of the Philippines.

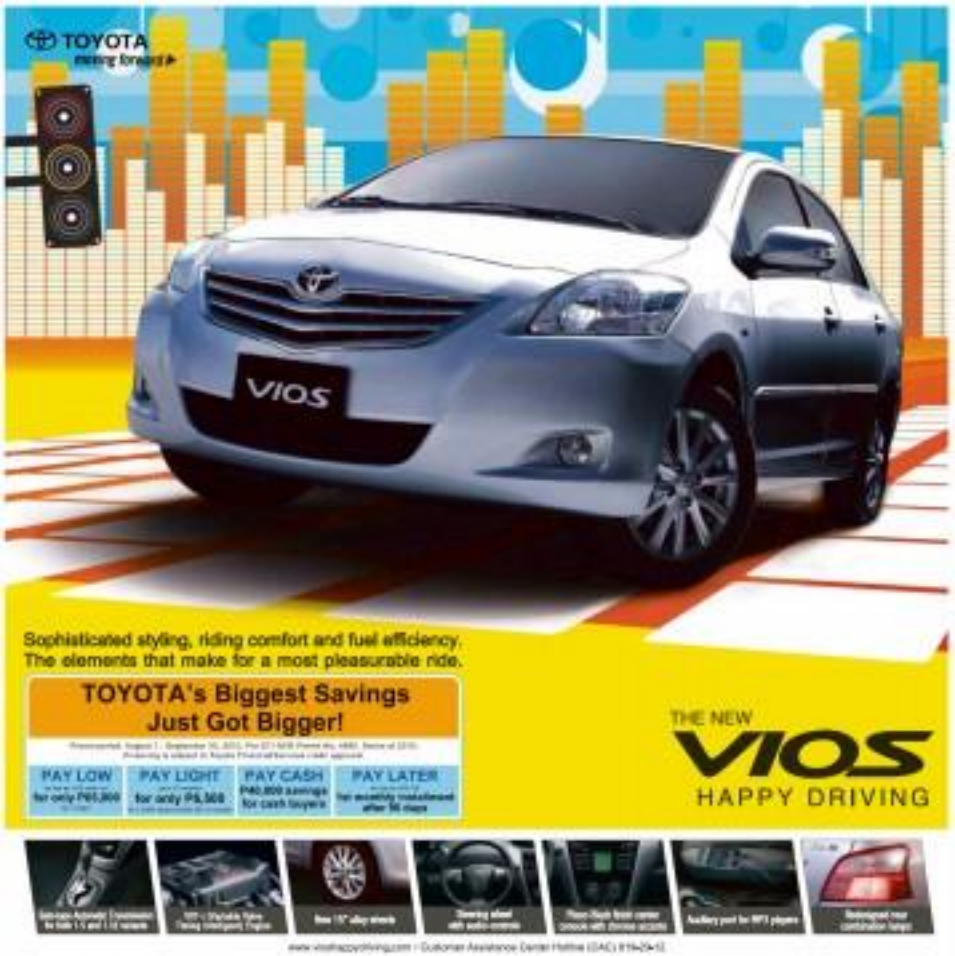
"The stakeholders and relevant parties will continuously be consulted," he added.

The energy chief, however, did not say how much the shortfall in capacity in Mindanao would be by the end of the year. He disclosed earlier that the government expected a power supply shortage of only 50 megawatts on the island by 2011, if all the hydropower plants continued to operate at full capacities.

Should the country experience another El Niño as what happened earlier this year, the deficit would become bigger.

"Mindanao, in the past, has been reliant on hydroelectric

/MINDANAO B3



SM Investments readies $850-M bond swap offer

Program to lengthen maturity of debts

By Doris C. Dumlao

TYCOON HENRY SY'S flagship firm SM Investments Corp. yesterday unveiled an $850-million bond swap offer, tailoring it to the type of the upbeat financial transaction to lengthen the maturity of debt paper maturing over the next three to four years.

SMIC announced that its board has approved the issuance of new dollar denominated, fixed-rate bonds due 2027 in line with an invitation for existing bondholders of its offshore bonds due 2018 and 2019. If market conditions are very favorable, the conglomerate may also issue new bonds to new investors to raise fresh funds for expansion.

The bond exchange offer targets holders of SMIC's $500-million, 6.75-percent bonds due 2018 and the $500-million, 6-percent bonds due 2019.

If SMIC decides to issue new bonds unrelated from to the swapped for existing bonds, the conglomerate said the proceeds would be used for general corporate purposes.

The documentation of the timing of the transaction, pricing and other features of the new bonds will be finalized by the company together with Citigroup Global Markets Ltd. and Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Ltd. as joint dealer managers and joint bond managers, and BDO Capital and Investment Corp. as joint dealer manager and co-manager of the transaction, SMIC said in a statement.

SMIC's bond exchange program comes on the heels of a successful $1-billion global peso denominated issuance by the Philippine government and a similar bond exchange program for offshore sovereign global bonds.

The flagship holding company of the country's richest man is spending about P50 billion this year to expand in property, retailing and banking businesses in the Philippines.

It was earlier reported that SMIC had set investor briefings in Hong Kong, Singapore, London, Boston, New York and Denver in early September.

The conglomerate aims to sustain a net profit growth range of 12-15 percent a year for the next five years and may consider further overseas opportunities to help fuel such growth. Aside from shopping mall development, SMIC has interests in retailing, banking, residential development and local tourism.

SMIC's first semester net profit grew 15 percent year-on-year to P8.5 billion on robust contribution from various businesses.

Russian miner buys stake in Mindoro project

By Roy T. Dichaves

RUSSIAN STEELMAKER OAO Severstal has acquired a 22.7-percent stake in Norwegian miner Intex Resources ASA, a company whose main project is a nickel mine in Mindoro.

The deal, valued at $32.5 million and made through Severstal's unit Lyria Holding IN, is part of the Russian company's "diversification strategy in non-commodities," said Boris Gruzensky, head of Severstal's Strategy and Business Development, in a statement posted on the company's website.

Severstal and Intex said in separate statements that the Russian miner also intended to make a voluntary offer to acquire the remaining Intex shares it did not own.

However, Intex said its board observed that Severstal's standing offer did not match the value of the Norwegian miner's mineral assets.

Based on 91.7 million Intex shares outstanding, the company said the proposal valued its equity at approximately $106.2 million.

Net of the $106.4 million in cash and cash equivalents that Intex had on its balance sheet as of June 30, the revealed offer valued all of the company's mineral properties at approximately $211.9 million, Intex said.

Intex said it has invested more than $225 million for the Mindoro nickel project over the last 16 months conducting feasibility studies and confirmatory exploration.

"The said sum alone is more than the implied value of the amended offer and does not account for the material value added resources delineated by the company in Mindoro," Intex said.

Intex CEO Mikael Grimstad said earlier that the deposit has a total resource of 16 million tons of nonrefined nickel, which lends itself well to production. It is very cost-effective to mine production at Mindoro is expected to start in three to four years and is estimated that it will be at 43,000 tons a year.

Nevertheless, Intex said its board would work together with its advisers to evaluate the company's strategic and financial options to maximize value for all shareholders of the company.

Mindanao . . .

From page B1

power for its affordability. However, in light of a protracted dry season this year, questions on its reliability have been made apparent by the pro-longed drought this year as the reduced water levels at the dams . . . dent really our power-generating capacities, not less than 18 percent.

"The DOE is keen on piloting short-term solutions which will [result] in a solution . . . with the more permanency while placing security and quality sources of energy is a major concern for Mindanao, the DOE is also putting emphasis on more power generation investments from diverse sources on the island," he added.

Almendras earlier said that he wanted the Mindanao grid to have at least 500 MW in base load generation from non-hydro sources like coal to insulate the island from severe power outages and unstable supply in the near future.

As of yesterday, the Mindanao grid had a power supply deficit of 137 MW.

Stocks . . .

From page B1

was much sweated to allow investors to profess gains following the local market's winning streak for the past three weeks.

Value-turn-over amounted to about P6.8 billion, foreign investors, however, remained upbeat on selected stocks, resulting in a P624 million worth of net foreign buying for the day.

The mining/oil counter bucked the downturn, rising 2.33 percent. The property sector succumbed the most to profit-taking as its counters declined by 1 percent.

Despite the overall index decline, advancers outnumbered decliners, 83-76, while 36 stocks were unchanged.

PNB, Philex, Metro Pacific Investments, Lopezs Meralco, SM Prime Holdings, Bloomberry and Security Bank led the day's advancers.

PNB, the day's most actively traded stock, soared 6.2 percent to P68 a share on reports that Metro Global Corp., was interested on buy the bank, if it was available for sale. PNB, for its part, has repeatedly said it was not for sale.

Philex has been rising on reports of prospective new mining acquisitions such as the $1-billion Tampakan mine while Lopezs Energy Development Corp. inked a deal with a South African gold miner for the development of its Batolusod project.

Investors sold down shares of SM Investments, Megaworld, PLDT, Ayala Land, Ayala Corp., Bank of the Philippine Island, First Gen, Universal Robina and DMCI Holdings.

Overnight, the Dow Jones Industrial Index was up a modest 7.41 points or 0.07 percent to 18,710.40. However, the broader S&P 500 and tech-heavy Nasdaq were both down 6.40 points and 2.93 points, respectively.

Doris C. Dumlao

The Corporate Fin Bate Notes were signed by (#R. EDUARDO V. FRANCISCO - PRESIDENT, BDO Capital & Investment Corp.; (#R. HOOI B. HONGDENA - PRESIDENT, BDO Trust & Investment Group; (#R. PRESCILLO C. MENDIOLA, JR. - SVP & Treasurer, Megaworld; BOO YIN, with (#R. JOSE D. MOLINA - CFO, JETTI PETROLEUM INC., witnessed by (#R. MARIO V. VILLANUEVA - HEAD OF BDO EQUITIES, (#R. ABRAHAM A. APOLINARIO - JUNIOR ASSOCIATE MANAGER, BDO EQUITIES; (#ATTY. REY PAUL S. FRANCO, HEAD LEGAL COUNSEL, JETTI PETROLEUM INC.

JETTI Petroleum Inc., one of the prominent new players in the development of industry of the Philippines, launched its Fixed Rate Peso Denominated Corporate Notes on September 21, 2016, 9th Floor, Ayala Tower, BDO Bldg., Makati. Arranged by BDO Capital and Investment Corporation, the issue made of (#Billion Pesos of JETTI Corporate Notes have been fully subscribed week prior to its official launching. The terms of the Notes is for three years and is to be repriced to yield a fixed interest rate of 6.95% (#RATE), (#% quarterly per annum.

The success and full subscription of its initial Corporate Fix Rate Notes offering is a significant development for JETTI as it highlights the trust and confidence of its business partners in the company's bullish outlook in the market. "The offering was over subscribed by PHI investors, this is a commitment from our institutional partners here and abroad," according to Joselito T. Magbitang, JETTI Petroleum Vice-President. He added, "JETTI opted to convert this new subscription into an annual fixed coupon more advantageous in the near market and the potential savings on interest cost". Proceeds of the facility shall be used for working capital and general purposes of JETTI to target key areas.

Jett Petroleum Inc. - Marketing Manager Mr. Leo P. Bellos quotes "We want to be the most development-oriented oil exploration company in the Philippines". "This is the completion of our presence in the petroleum market," he adds.

Mr. Eduardo V. Francisco, President of BDO Capital and Investment Corporation congratulated JETTI for the company's successful and first ever Peso Denominated Corporate Notes offering. Mr. Francisco likewise expresses his interest in facilitating JETTI's future participation in the IPO.

Association of Certified Public Accountants in Public Practice

MAYOR HAGEDORN WELCOMES ACPAPP TO PALAWAN

Hon. Edward S. Hagedorn, mayor of Puerto Princesa City, will deliver the inspirational message to welcome ACPAPP members at their 10th Annual National Convention on September 23-25, 2010 at Pinya Hotel. This is the first time ACPAPP is holding its convention in Puerto Princesa City. Mayor Hagedorn will present a symbolic key to the city to ACPAPP President Ely Abad and Convention Chair Atty. Francis L. Pangalian. He will also host the dinner on the first night of the event with a cultural show by the Pangdot Kulilangan, the premier cultural group well grounded in Palawan Tradition.

This year's convention theme: "Sublime Client Relationship: a Partnership for Responsive Public Practice" accentuates the importance of building gaps in said relationship. Past ACPAPP President Gregorio S. Navarro, will deliver the keynote address. Navarro is presently President of the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (FINEX). Other valuable inputs will be shared by SEC General Accountant Ma. Lourdes F. Casals-Diaz, BIR OIC-Chief Grace Evalyn A. Lacanlale of the Audit Information, Tax Exemption and Incentives Division, Quality Assurance Review Program Chair Eladio B. Gilbuena, Board of Accountancy and Auditing and Assurance Standards Council Chair Judith V. Lopez, Managing Consultant of Six Sigma Consulting Francis G. Del Rosario will also share ideas on topic "Going from Good to Great" based on the book "Good to Great" by Jim Collins.

The 10th ANC program will earn 15.25 CPE units vs CEAs who will attend the convention. ACPAPP, the association of CEAs in public practice, is the professional accounting organization of auditing practitioners in the country that is composed of 277 accounting firms authorized members nationwide. Today it has chapters in Laguna, Batangas, Central Luzon, Cebu, Ilocs and Cagayan de Oro. ACPAPP is focused on the professional development of auditors. It has developed and continues to update its Business Assurance Seminar Program composed of four modules, delivering core knowledge and skills from entry level auditor to senior audit managers. Aside from auditing, ACPAPP also has training programs on regulatory matters (SEC, BIR, and other regulatory bodies), accounting and other skills relevant to the public practice profession.

2010 ACPAPP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Seated from left: Ma. Victoria C. Espejo, Anita C. Rodriguez, Emma L. Alon-Marfil, Felicidad A. Abad (President), Wilma-B. Guerrero, Ma. Alma C. Sese. Standing from left: Danilo T. Alas, Cleopatra A. De, Rodelio C. Acosta, George P. Villarin, Ernesto T. Dia, Atty. Ma. Cecilia C. Ratilgan, Ma. Cecilia F. Ortiz, Edgardo A. Leonardo, Luis A. Catane (not in photo).

10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE

In behalf of the Board of Accountancy, I would like to extend our warmest greetings and commendations to the organizers and participants of the 10th Annual National Convention of the Association of Certified Public Accountants in Public Practice (ACPAPP) to be held on September 23-25, 2010 in Pinya Hotel, Rizal Avenue, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

This convention theme: Sublime Client Relationship: a Partnership for Responsive Public Practice" is indeed very appropriate and timely. In this day and age, the world is no longer what it used to be. With the advent of the Information Age, there are higher standards and demands for efficiency, effectiveness and competitiveness. With factors like location and state of the art communications as pillars of globalization, the practice of the profession has been affected. The manifest reality of the current economic developments affecting the financial and economic world calls for an accounting profession that is capable to respond to the challenges of the times. There is a need — and of having the business world's most trusted advisers, it becomes necessary for all of us to be professionally competent and mindful of adherence to the standards of good performance and integrity. We must continue to exercise what is right with competence and dedication, acting more of morality, independence and integrity. This gathering serves as a good opportunity for such reminder.

Please accept my best wishes for a fruitful and successful convention.

ATTY. [illegible]
Chief of Accountancy

With an eye on the third decade in ACPAPP mark the changes and value the challenges.

We are very much alive, endowed with enough resources and intellectual capital that we all can be proud of. Thanks to the many leaders who served and those who came before us.

I congratulate ACPAPP for another successful conclusion of the 10th Annual National Convention with the theme, "Sublime Client Relationship: A Partnership for Responsive Public Practice".

The global economic challenges, the constant changes in financial reporting standards which continue to augment in effect on how we do our work, the demand for transparency, governance and strict regulatory compliance are still there. Even if we are good members, these elements are an unwelcome or difficult. Let us not attempt to keep pointed the most important character in our profession: our CLIENTS.

What we have achieved thus far, we will use to the greater benefit of our membership. We will use our gains to further improve and to move ACPAPP to greater heights. With focus on audit-client relationship, we are further enrich the knowledge and expertise of our members via every update of public practices, given the many challenges that we face.

Undoubtedly, this convention will provide a venue for interaction with our clients on current issues as distinguished guests, speakers and contributors share their professional competence and valuable insights.

I am very grateful to greet and welcome all of you, dear delegates on this occasion. Let me also extend my deepest gratitude to the different committees in making this convention possible.

Thank you and experience the splendor of the city in a break. –Palawan

FELICIDAD A. ABAD
ACPAPP President

Every year, the prestigious Association of Certified Public Accountants in Public Practice (ACPAPP) holds its convention in various and exclusive locations. This year, the association decided that the place is not enough to gratifying its friends and professional associates, and to enhance their knowledge in a more progressively competitive and scalable public practice. Thereby, we want to this noble cause of our convention theme: "Sublime Client Relationship: A Partnership for Responsive Public Practice". This will be accomplished from the series to avoid applications. This issue have been one of the association's objectives from the beginning, to establish a good working relationship between the practitioner's and clients.

We feel, because by the assembly of duly certified professional accountants in the Philippines, they are accomplishing the Board of Accountancy in its efforts to uphold and enforce, and professional requirements. The regard body will further strengthen and private sectors, definitely and appreciate the overall goal to promote and protect the investing public interests.

My annual National Convention Committee publicly accepted its defined assignments with zeal and commitment. A lot of work is finishing of preparations to face the challenges of such complex endeavor. A very few times, mind-boggling! Sometimes, heart-breaking! Oftentimes, agonizingly excruciating! But, the dedication and commitment of the committee personnel right that enterprise was born and grabbing, is serving in the association and living by its mission.

I salute and thank these wonderful men and women – true members of "Kapatid".

In behalf of the leaders of the association and the members of the committee, I heartily extend all of you, our native, new or native, and prospective members of ACPAPP, a very warm welcome. I trust your valued presence and participation. You and I are guaranteed with a history of sought-after service presents in 10 by our intellectual resources with relational and technical impact, which altogether must enhance our professional competence and stature of the profession.

All of us are excited and enthused to see each other in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, on our 10th coming 3rd Annual National Convention.

Best wishes,

ATTY. [illegible]
Chair, 10th Annual National Convention

People, Events & Products

Email: inbisquiz@inquirer.com.ph

Retirees fulfill travel dreams with Cebu Pacific

THOSE WHO love to travel often look forward to their time when they can retire and explore the world. As most senior citizens and retirees know, raising children or working for a living requires sacrifices. The most common sacrifice is one's "me" time, which is difficult to get with the simultaneous demands of work, family and community.

After decades of hard work and routines, anxious and empty nesters finally get to reconnect themselves, and spend their free time in different locations. Getting an affordable package is definitely a plus, which is why many of them appreciate Cebu Pacific so much for its exclusive low fares and convenient network to 23 domestic and 16 international destinations.

One such person is Betty Gin Villanueva, who worked for 37 years in the pharmaceutical industry. Her last position was that of as a branch manager from a leading drug store.

"I just want to enjoy what I've worked for in the past," she said. "Work can very demanding before, so there wasn't much time to travel. Also, there were many bills, as well as the expenses for the education of my children. Once I retired, I got to see more places and experience new things. I'm learning to take on adventurous things, and it's fun!"

When Villanueva fulfilled her obligations, she looked forward to spending more time with her family and frequenting beaches and tourist destinations like Singapore and Hong Kong. She discovered Cebu Pacific's fares which was ideal for what she had planned.

"Cebu Pacific's low fares allow me and my family to travel without spending so much. And thanks to very affordable travel packages nowadays, I have considered traveling more often," she said.

Another retiree, Benedicto Bayona, is also finally grabbing the opportunities to explore the world further. The 64-year-old former United Nations training and facilitation officer only retired a few months ago, but he's very eager to go to and enjoy places he didn't get to see when he was working.

"I used to travel a lot due to the nature of my work," he said. "Now, I want to focus on other aspects of browsing, such as culinary and traditions. Affordable tickets and convenient flight schedules and connections help fulfill my dream there days. And the travel-back service that Cebu Pacific offers is a big plus for us."

Bayona has been to Thailand and Nepal, and wishes to tour other countries. Villanueva and Valiantly rich agree. She is pleased that CEB continues to be an option for those who relish to reconnect themselves to different cultures.

"I hope to visit China, South Korea, and other Asian destinations eventually. It's an adventure to travel the sea, climb the mountains, and learn the languages," Yu said.

With those relishing vacations, retirees and empty nesters are having the time of their lives.

For more information on CEB flights, go to www.cebupacificair.com or http://fanclub.cebupacificair.com.

EPLDT JOINS KOOV AND FORUM

Premier IT company ePLDT recently joined Koov and Forum as eCommerce technological development engagement app Cebu partnered, who presented ePLDT's IT solutions during the event, with the ePLDT sales and marketing team: (2nd from left) Anna Duran, team leader for IP Contact Center Solutions; Lea Kinuna, industry manager; Mikey Smyth, head of marketing communications; and Alvan Marcos, marketing assistant.

International golf show at SMX

THOUSANDS OF golf enthusiasts are expected to troop to the SMX Convention Center this weekend to see the latest in golf equipment and avail of the biggest sale ever at the 15th Philippine International Golf Show opens from Sept. 24 to 26. Golf Confederation Association of the Philippines (GCAP) president Ruth Hidalgonia said they have processed hundreds of online registrants for the forthcoming golf show and they expect more golfers to register on site on Friday. GCAP will offer an unusual 4-player all-scramble shotgun start Saturday, the 11-year-old golf sensation for serving the recently concluded World Junior Golf Competition at San Diego, California. He is the son of golfing pro Boyet Zaragoza and a member of the Calatagan golf team. The scramble will be done during the closing ceremonies on Friday, according to the event organizer Palm and More, an added attraction to the golf show is the chance to play Callaway Golf Big Bertha and early draw in the dark mini golf to date. Callaway golf is a game in the dark miniature golf where participants can play indoors without being interrupted even when it gets dark. Its current location is at the Mahjong Tower. GCAP also opened an official website www.gcap.org for the public to register online and get updates for the upcoming event. Over 120 participating booths will set up for the participants during the 3-day event. There include the country's top golf shops, apparel makers, developers who wish to showcase their designs and maintenance services as well as health service providers. Media partners are the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inquirer Golf Magazine and A Round of Golf. For inquiries, inquirer Golf Magazine and/or bookings of exhibition call Ram and Shine Inc. at 845-0314, 725-6486, fax 843-1305, 726-4686 or e-mail at info@gcap.org.

Publicis JimenezBasic wins Best in Market Performance at AOY

DESPITE THE weather it's not at a science exhibition, advertising is fun and foremost a business. It's a business that helps other businesses do better business. And to be recognized as the industry's best in Market Performance only means that Publicis JimenezBasic has been creating their and their clients' business quite well. Highlighted by Diamond Asia's Indulging Dreams campaign that made chocolate bottle's layered with a buy want, and UFC Banana Catsup's phenomenal Lunchbox Office into that turned catsup from a once condiment into a must-dish. Publicis JimenezBasic proved once again that there is nothing as powerful as contagious, and as profitable as word that works. In the wake of these efforts, Publicis JimenezBasic looks forward to creating even more contagious, more entertaining, more buzz and business building, more valuable engaging work for its other current and future clients as well. And presumably it is by one of the youngest, toughest teams in the business. Need to bring that up less that from happening.

Product Files

Buy one Gargol, take one free!

THOSE WHO'RE all-natural lovers of teeth-whitened this thing as Kaneh Enterprises, also known for its Aloe Gargol's specialty for at selected Mercury Drug Stores nationwide. when you buy two 500ml bottle you will receive one extra absolutely free. Gargol's unique formula of essential oils, properties and xylitol - with no alcohol - is the Philippine's first all-natural mouthwash designed for the whole family to love. Gargol is the only mouthwash available in two tasty flavors - strawberry, mint, green apple and orange. Daily use will keep your mouth deliciously fresh, moisturized from dry mouth and protected against tooth decay and ulcers. For more information, www.gargol.com or call 524-6048. Offer is until Nov. 30.

Vitalac: The comfort of milk

FAIRY TALES are definitely here again, and Fairy Tales' newborn brand milkfood means sweet quality bonding for moms and kids. Promises delicious and nutritious milk drink that would soothe the children's endlessness cravings for sweets. With Vitalac, the powdered filled milk that kids enjoy for its taste, moms can make sure that their children get its delicious milk everyday and it also provides proper nourishment for kids without moms having to worry about the budget. Vitalac, the powdered filled milk for practical moms, is available in sachets, pouches, and boxes at leading supermarkets, sari-sari stores and market stalls nationwide.

MEC claims first Boomerang award for 'Ultimate Schick Boy'

LEADING MEDIA agency MEC announced its first ever Boomerang Award for their Schick Fresco 2's digital campaign, "Ultimate Schick Boy". The campaign was a first-ever in the Philippines' Microsites category at the awards held August 26 as part of the Internet and Mobile Marketing Association of the Philippines (Imap) convention.

Now in its fourth year, the Boomerang awards recognizes great innovations in online/mobile campaigns in the Philippines and honors brands that build their businesses and enhance their marketing goals using these channels.

MEC was the only media agency to win in this year's Boomerang Awards, other winners were from digital publishers and suppliers, creative agencies and digital developers.

The winning submission from MEC Innovation, the agency's digital specialists - "Ultimate Schick Boy" - centered around the search for the most male heart throb via a branded website to exemplify Schick's qualities of being cool, free-spirited, and fresh looking. It was also intentionally a play on the words "Schick Boy" and meant to be shown as the best picture "Schick Boy". Social networking sites were created for public confidence of the winner and also became an avenue for netizens and brand fans to cheer on their campus favorites. The entry had digital at the heart of its campaign and on the overall communication platform.

Jaco Uy, head of MEC Interaction said "Through Schick Boy, MEC is trying to include more substance and innovation to next year's Boomerang awards. The power of technology and the Internet in our everyday lives has increased tremendously and the evolution of brand marketing is just beginning. It is within these emerging platforms of endless possibilities that MEC Innovation aims to help our clients further their business goals."

NORTON PRODUCT LAUNCH

IMAGE 25 percent of consumers worldwide falling victim to cybercrime, the need to discover the strongest, most comprehensive protection available is more important than ever. Norton from Symantec recently released Norton AntiVirus and Norton Internet Security 2011, the only suite to achieve a 100 percent protection score in a new third-party test from Dennis Technology Labs. Advancing the Norton commitment to releasing only the fastest and lightest security products on the market in the fight against cybercrime, the 2011 products have been optimized to provide consumers with faster scanning performance and proactive benchmarks. In the photo during the launch is (from left) Rhody Ibrahim, internet safety advocate and consumer business head, Asia and Greater Asia, regional product marketing manager, Symantec Pacific and Asia South.

CBNB JOINS MEGALINK

The Cooperative Rural Bank of Naga (CBNB) is the first cooperative to connect to the growing Megalink of Bicol financial services network (MBN), being one of the country's biggest cooperative banks, has 14 strategically located branches in the provinces of Bulacan and recently opened its Makati City. For these branches, the bank's growing force has been serving and extending quality to its members and stakeholders. As a Megalink member, CBNB will be able to offer clients access to over 9,000 ATMs nationwide and a wide array of e-banking services. Photo shows Megalink president and CEO Benjamin P. Castillo (left) welcoming CBNB president and CEO Nestor S. Caballes. With them are (from left) Megalink chief of marketing management group Jenny M. Tantay and CBNB SVP Alvaro P. Maceda Jr.

FINEX WEEK

Finex Week is slated on Sept. 20 to Oct. 1. Shown in the event committee in action (from left): Cebu Sports Center Director Ma. Corina Diaring, Alfonso Miranda, Cong. Richard Bing Pineda. For facilities information, please contact Dave Sarmiento via Analyn Ritos-Ruiz at tel. nos. (02)4852, 911-4180, 911-4187 or e-mail at analyn.ruiz@ph.ey.com.

AMI COURTESY CALL TO MAYOR JEJOMAR BINAY JR

The board of directors of Association of Makati Industries Inc (AMI), as an invested NGO in the City of Makati held a courtesy call with Mayor Jejomar Binay Jr. (3rd from left). Other officers of AMI, Inc. (from left) Vice President Philip Chang and Makati Building Official Engr. Felipe Bacolod Jr. (Vice President and Makati Redevelopment Authority) Mayor Jejomar Binay Jr., President Augusto Commonwealth Francisco and president of AMI, Susie Quintero (AMI), Daisy Pauang and Susan Dandaldo (San Pablo Manufacturing Corp). Central Bank Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr. de la Rosa and Philip Ysmael and Horacio Arevalo Jr. (Commonwealth Foods Inc.) and Reynaldo Reyes (Binay Inc.) and PUBS.

Seminar on how to evict abusive squatters

A PROPERTY owner's worst nightmare is to have squatters. But professional squatting syndicates and unlawful tenants on his premises. What does one do when faced with this headache? The Center for Global Best Practices is holding a one-day seminar titled, "A Property Owner's Guide to Ejecting Squatters Effectively: Strategies, Legal Practices, Issues, and Solutions" on Oct. 15 at the Bistek Hotel Cebu City. Hotel and Casino, Lahug, Cebu City. The seminar is about protecting your property from unlawful occupants and how to efficiently utilize ejectment actions and provisional remedies available as effective tools in the speedy recovery of your land or building so as to avoid further damage arising out of prolonged dispossession. Users learn and ask questions from a practicing judge and book author of the "Law on Ejectment," Judge Susito A. Mercadera, who will share relevant concepts and landmark cases which are important for the successful handling from cases presented by unlawful occupants or real property whether public or private, to addition, Gen. Elmo G. Fernandez, PRP (retired) will discuss "Best Practices Operations in the Ground, Ejectment Strategies and Common Tactics." He is an expert strategist who has extensive experience in peacefully and effectively removing thousands of illegal dwellers. The third lecturer is lawyer Ferdinand M. Casis who is an expert in agrarian law. He is a law professor at the Ateneo Law School and is the dean of the Philippine Judicial Academy. He was director of legal service at the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) from 1993 to 1995. Attend this seminar and avoid the costly mistakes and pitfalls of other property owners who have failed to evict unlawful occupants. This is a limited-seats-only event. Pre-registration is required. This seminar is MCLE accredited by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and CEP accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission. Attending lawyers will earn MCLE credit units. Finally, brochures will soon be CEP credit units. For full details, visit CGBP's website www.cgbp.org or call Cebu line/s (032) 512-3108/57 or (Manila telefax) (02)842-7149/50.

2011 PANASONIC SCHOLARSHIP

Two young Filipino professionals received a scholarship grant for research and master's course in Japan during the 2011 Panasonic Scholarship awarding ceremony held recently. The recipients, who were chosen after passing series of tests, interviews and assessment, will be given full assistance as students or professionals in their respective schools or work are Jeneven E. Dimapilis (seated left), and Mark Christian C. Mateo (seated right). Also shown in photo are (standing from left) Panasonic System Networks Philippines Corp. (PSNP) manager Mary Ann Diaz, Panasonic Manufacturing Philippines Corp. (PMPC) executive director and chairman Shoichiro Miyazaki, Panasonic Scholarship Foundation (PSF) president Takuo Sone, Panasonic Scholarship Co. Ltd. (Japan) president Kenshiro Kawara, Panasonic Scholarship Philippines Chair PMPC president Renya Nishizaki, Commission on Higher Education executive director III Ismael Adlo Vilreta, Japan Information and Cultural Center of the Embassy of Japan director Tomoko Endo, PMPC director Miguel Castro, PMPC assistant director Merlie Mirafuni, PMPC general manager Eduardo Guerrero, and PSNP general manager Mia Ventura.

METAL AND HARDWARE PHILIPPINES 2010

Metal and Hardware Philippines 2010 - 14th International Precision Engineering, Metalworking, Industrial & Equipment, Factory Automation, Welding, Electronics Production and Allied Industry Exhibition will be held from Oct. 6 to 9 at the SMX Convention Center. The event offers a unique marketing opportunity that enhances your company's ability to tap to make business opportunities. For more information about the show, please contact Global Link MEP Events International Inc at tel. no. (632) 750-8388, fax (632) 519-8388, e-mail info@globallinkmep.com or visit www.globallinkmep.com.

HITACHI GST TURNS OVER REGIONAL LAB TO CSU

Hitachi Global Storage Technologies Philippines Corp. (Hitachi GST) president and site manager Diosdado Angeles Juanchuan (2nd from right) and the consultant signing and turnover documents at the Hitachi Regional Laboratory to the Cavite State University (CSU) in Rosario City. Accepting the donation of the laboratory equipment on behalf of the said state college and Industrial Technician and CSU president Dr. Antonio Contreras (center). At the ceremony are (from left) Hitachi GST and ISE Plants GM Jaime Manalo, Hitachi GST Plants HR Director Ma. Victoria Ramos, Hitachi GST Plants Operations Director Ramon Ang, Hitachi GST Plants Finance

Gov't posted ₱275B in net borrowings in 8 mos

TRADERS in the Hong Kong stock exchange pit signal orders as the Chicago Board of Trade, US stocks turned positive in volatile afternoon trading on Tuesday after the Federal Reserve said it stood ready to provide additional support to bolster a modest economic recovery. AFP FILE

By Reuend M. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT registered ₱274.6 billion in net borrowings as of August (the year, a reversal of the net payment of ₱15.35 billion posted in the same period last year, the Bureau of the Treasury said.

A document from the BTr shows that the bulk of the borrowings during the period came from the issuance of bonds denominated in dollars and yen worth a total ₱120.23 billion. The bonds were issued in the first quarter of the year.

The government also raised a total of ₱119.6 billion in retail treasury bonds—one for the domestic market in April and another mainly for overseas Filipinos in August.

From January to August, new government bond borrowings reached ₱564.36 billion, including ₱388.1 billion from foreign sources and ₱928.56 billion from domestic lenders and investors.

The total was about 1.38 percent more than the year-ago inflow of ₱569.13 billion, which covered ₱442 billion from abroad and ₱127.35 billion from local lenders.

At the same time, the government paid a total of ₱309.86 billion, including ₱301.79 billion in foreign loans and ₱206.07 billion in domestic debts.

Total payments was about 9 percent more than the ₱284.3 billion paid in the same period last year, which covered ₱86.94 billion in foreign obligations and and ₱202.36 billion in local loans.

In August alone, the government registered a net borrowing of ₱98. 9 billion, a reversal of a net payment of ₱42.34 billion posted a year ago.

On Monday, Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima said the budget deficit in January to August reached ₱326. 1 billion, higher by 8.6 percent than the year-ago figure.

Inflow is 118% more than year-ago level

In August, the government contracted a total of ₱3.35 billion in new foreign loans, doubling the ₱1.66 billion last year.

The entire August inflow covered funding for projects, a big chunk of which came from the Japanese government's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.

The total overseas development assistance capped in the eight months to August, fell by 37.3 percent to ₱221.65 billion from ₱564.54 billion a year ago.

New borrowings from domestic lenders in August reached ₱5.45. 39 billion, a reversal of the net payment of ₱8.74 billion in the same month of 2009.

The huge increase was mainly due to the issuance of retail treasury bonds for overseas Filipinos worth ₱97.5 billion.

Also in August, the government shelled out ₱7.14 billion for payment of foreign loans, slightly higher than the ₱7.06 billion paid last year.

At the same time, the government paid ₱98.51 billion in domestic obligations, 37.5 percent higher than the ₱28 billion settled a year ago.

Fed mills over steps to bolster US growth

WASHINGTON—The Federal Reserve on Tuesday outlined steps to fresh steps to bolster a sluggish US recovery, saying it stood ready to provide more support for the economy and expressing stronger concerns about low inflation.

The Federal Bank's policy setting panel opened the door wider to pumping hundreds of billions of new dollars into the economy, although it made no policy shift at the end of a two-day meeting, keeping overnight interest rates near zero.

"The committee ... is prepared to provide additional accommodation if needed to support the economic recovery and to ensure inflation, over time, is at levels consistent with its mandate," it said in a statement.

After its last meeting on Aug. 10, the Federal Open Market Committee had simply said it would "employ its policy tools as necessary."

"The FOMC must has a very explicit easing bias," JPMorgan economist Michael Feroli wrote in a note to clients. "The fact it now admitting that they are not hitting the inflation mandate, clearly not hitting the employment mandate and—with subpar growth forecasts—not on track for the next—not even moving in the right direction." The expectation for further easing was expressed in a Reuters poll of primary dealers taken just after the decision.

It lowered 29 of the 36 big banks' inflation forecasts over the accommodation was likely, with seven predicting an announcement could come as early as the Fed's next meeting in November.

The Fed underscored its concerns over easing price pressures in the US economy by officially easing for the first time that core inflation was running below levels at which policymakers are comfortable.

"With substantial resource slack continuing to restrain cost pressures and longer-term inflation expectations stable, inflation is likely to remain subdued for some time," it said.

US Treasury debt prices surged after the statement, with the yield on the two-year note hitting a record of record lows, and the dollar fell sharply as investors speculated about further easing as soon as the Fed's next meeting on Nov. 2-3.

Gold prices, which have jumped almost 17 percent this year on concerns that efforts to prop up the US economy will fuel inflation, set a fresh record high.

On Wall Street, US stock prices ended flat to lower in an erratic session.

"The federal Reserve has taken another step, albeit a half step, in recognizing the uncertainties that are weighing on the economy," said Mohamed El-Erian, co-chief investment officer at bond fund Pimco.

Reuters cry federal Reserve Bank president Thomas Hoenig dissented for a sixth consecutive time, reiterating his view that the central bank could allow its balance sheet to shrink and that a vow—repeated on Tuesday—to keep borrowing costs exceptionally low for an extended period was no longer warranted.

After cutting the overnight federal funds rate to near zero in December 2008, the Fed launched an asset-buying program in a bid to keep borrowing costs artificially low.

In the end, it bought $1.7 trillion in longer-term US government debt and mortgage-related bonds. Restarting large-scale purchases of government bonds is the Fed's most likely next step.

Fed Chair Ben Bernanke said late last month that the central bank was ready to provide more stimulus if needed, but that officials would only act if the economic outlook deteriorated significantly.

The Fed's statement made plain that the likely path of inflation would be a key guide as US policymakers ponder their next step.

Core inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, was up 1.4 percent in the 12 months to July. Officials would like to see it land between 1.7 percent and 2 percent.

But the Fed said it expected core inflation eventually to rise to levels consistent with its mandate.

By emphasizing the need to act against the risk of deflation—a potentially crippling downward price spiral—Bernanke may be making an appeal to the inflation-focused hawks on the panel. Some have said they would only support further easing if deflation was a risk.

The painful US recession ended in June 2009, but the recovery has been unconvincing this year with growth tapering to an anemic 1.6 percent annualized rate in the second quarter.

Other economic data over the summer also proved disappointing, with growth lapsing to near stall speed. Forecasts for the second half of the year.

While the tone of the data has improved in recent weeks, the economy's sluggish pace and a deeply troubled job market have kept alive fears of another downturn. Reuters

PLDT offers more affordable mobile Internet

By Paolo G. Montecillo

DOMINANT CARRIER Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) launched a mobile Internet service that makes it more affordable for budget-conscious subscribers to go online using their mobile phones.

In a statement on Wednesday, PLDT said "Kaakibat" would be offered by Talk N' Text.

"Kaakibat" will allow Talk N' Text subscribers to access the Net using their handsets for free hours for only ₱50.

Other networks charge about ₱30 for every hour of mobile Internet use. Users can also opt to be charged based on per kilobyte of information transmitted.

"Kaakibat enables Talk 'N Text subscribers to use their cell phones to go and stay online, update their blogs, chat or send e-mails, but without the fear of incurring excessive airtime as a fixed and low cost," PLDT said in a statement.

"Our subscribers have benefited from the nationwide network coverage of Talk 'N Text, its affordable offers, and the convenience of finding prepaid load wherever they are. Kaakibat expands this host of benefits and adds the proposition of our strategy of providing basic yet advanced services to our subscribers, at least cost," said Perry Ibarra, head of marketing at Talk 'N Text, a unit of PLDT subsidiary Smart Communications.

The Talk 'N' Text brand used to be operated by Smart subsidiary Philippine Telephone Corp. (PTelP). Talk 'N' Text's assets were transferred to Smart earlier this year after PTelP was converted into a holding firm for the phone group's energy assets.

"Kaakibat also helps advance Smart's 'Texture for All' agenda—or to bring the benefits of the Internet more widely to more people in more places," Ibarra added.

To experience mobile Internet, Talk 'N' Text subscribers must first set the 3G/HSDL/GPRS features of their cell phone, and then may do this by sending the text SET to 211.

The 30-peso charge will be deducted from the subscriber's prepaid credit or registration. A prepaid balance of ₱1 must be maintained while subscribed to the Kaakibat package.

Any amount of time exceeding the top hour of ₱50 for every 30 minutes, which is the same rate charged on Talk 'N Text's regular Internet.

As of end-June 2010, the subscriber base of Talk 'N Text reached 18 million, or more than 40 percent of the PLDT group's current base.

Mobile broadband is seen as the next growth area for local telecommunications firms, with the market for broadband voice call and text messaging services nearing its saturation point.

Sale with a kiss

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Bernal IV

BUT WHAT is in a kiss?

For the past 20 years or so, the government has been telling us that the sale of assets after assets to private groups would be the answer to a lot of our problems.

The government even had a buzzword for it all: "privatization."

Every administration promised to that "privatization" would give us relief from high cost of power, water and telephone, or for that matter, even luxury traffic.

Now, search far and wide for any good word about privatization in this country, just you try to scour the length and breadth of metro Manila or any of the cities of the metropolitan bulge in search of privatization success, and you will probably end up frustrated.

For example, the government has been dealing deals with private groups on huge chunks of the power system from generating plants to transmission lines.

Its leasing these assets to groups, the government has been telling us that the private groups would run our electricity bills and power failures.

Yet, rates are still the second highest power rates in Asia. By the way, we still have blackouts, both prolonged and widespread.

And don't let anybody ever tell us that the buyers of these assets have not been making big money.

* * *

AGAIN! Two years ago in January 2008, for instance, the government sold the transmission lines of Napocor to a consortium now known as National Grid Philippines Corp., or NGPC.

The government made up-front for the deal. Payment would be made in "tranches," "flown here we know it simply as payback.

Recently, one of the sons of tycoon Henry Sy, John Tabang of the SM conglomerate), teamed Ricardo Sy (a John Big Boy), formerly a mere consumer to buy out a group in PEPIC.

Ricardo Po Tuipan (Ricardo supposedly paid) a handsome price of ₱350 million for the interest of Manila Oriental Investments in the privatized transmission company.

Look at that—the SM group spent (supposedly) ₱35 billion for a minority interest in NGPC and the money did not even go to NGPC.

perhaps to seed capital to improve its transmission service, because it all went to the original private group buyers.

That is part of the problem, really, because the government does not follow up on the promises made by the buyers regarding capital investment.

Here are three new investing in new transmission lines:

For the past 20 months or so, we have been waiting for some major project to install new transmission lines to interconnect the different power grids in Mindanao and the Visayas. When none came, we knew it was from NGPC.

* * *

JUST the other day, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile was talking about another privatized project—the water system.

It turned out that, as Manong pointed out, the government privately allowed Manila Water, owned by the Ayala group, to sell her from all its customers a domestic sum of ₱720 million as payment for nothing yet.

The money was actually our "advance" payment to Manila Water.

In 2003, you see, the National Water Resources Board allowed Manila Water to pass on to billings an amount that Manila Water was supposed to use to develop the Pinera Dam as source of water.

The "development" has yet to happen up to now. Manila Water has been grappling with all sorts of problems, such as opposition from another group that was also training after the project.

Now, why did the NWRB approve Manila Water's application for "advance collection" in the first place for something that the owners of Manila Water should be financing themselves?

Everybody thought that the biggest idea of privatization was for the private groups to spend their own money to improve the service. Everybody thought it would be the only time we should pay for the better service. Not in advance.

Hey, privatization is not a part of the personnel industry.

* * *

HERE is another luxury story moving around the power industry. It is about a power plant sold by PSALM (Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp.) on a group supposedly backed by somebody big in Malacañang.

Apparently with instructions from high above, they allowed a "grace period" on the full payment of the purchase price. In other words, using money.

The clincher was that, as part of the deal, the government gave the fuel inventory to the buyers of the power plant free of charge.

That means that the buyers make a lot of money on electricity sales, which they then used to pay for the plant.

From what I heard, the buyers have made an additional investment in the plant. Every million they now get out of the plant should be pure gravy. Delicious!

* * *

ACCORDING to Rep. Ben Evardone (Eastern Samar), PSALM also lost some P100 million in its transaction with the bankrupt US investment house Lehman Brothers.

It seems PSALM gave more than $2 million to Lehman Brothers as "premium payment" for a certain insurance deal done two years ago. Its usual, the deal did not materialize, but the investment house got to keep the payment of PSALM.

The question is this: Why was PSALM "investing" money that it obtained from the privatization of the power plants?

The branches pointed out, the laws (or the law on the power sector privatization) requires that proceeds from the sale of Napocor assets should be used to pay for the debts of Napocor. See—we can lost out in the "privatization" money that was already in the hand of the government.

Now who has to this program anyway?

First Pac raises $400M in 10-yr bonds; issue oversubscribed

By Paolo G. Montecillo

HONG KONG-BASED First Pacific Co. Ltd., which has several big cyber investments in the Philippines, successfully raised $400 million earlier this week from the sale of long-term bonds, as part its refinancing and overall debt management program.

The issuance of the 10-year bonds, which are backed by the company's shares in Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT), yielded an interest rate of 6.37% percent a year.

The bond issue was also upsized to $400 million from the originally planned $300 million to meet the "tremendous" market demand for the issue.

Demand was high with the issuance being 13.3 times oversubscribed.

"Key proceeds from the bonds will be used for repayment of at least $200 million of the company's existing borrowings and the balance for general corporate purposes," First Pacific said in a statement posted on its website.

The company said the bond issue, which is guaranteed by First Pacific, also diversifies its sources of funding and extends its debt maturity profile to an average debt maturity of over six years.

"This bond offering comes at an auspicious time for First Pacific, coming on the heels of strong first half earnings and continuing success in our capital management program," said First Pacific managing director and CEO Manuel V. Pangilinan. "The issue was 11.2 times oversubscribed, signaling a high degree of confidence in First Pacific by the financial markets."

In August, First Pacific reported an increase of more than 50 percent in recurring net profit to ₱391.9 million in the first half of the year.

Earlier this year, it launched a capital management program consisting of a commitment to pay a minimum of 25 percent of recurring profit to shareholders as dividends, and a two-year share repurchase program to buy up to HK$1 billion in First Pacific shares.

Ortiz Agricole GB said that it expected the company to spend the proceeds to expand their core businesses in the Philippines, Indonesia and Australia.

In August, the government contracted a total of ₱3.35 billion in new foreign loans, doubling the ₱1.66 billion last year.

The entire August inflow covered funding for projects, a big chunk of which came from the Japanese government's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.

The total overseas development assistance capped in the eight months to August, fell by 37.3 percent to ₱221.65 billion from ₱564.54 billion a year ago.

New borrowings from domestic lenders in August reached ₱5.45. 39 billion, a reversal of the net payment of ₱8.74 billion in the same month of 2009.

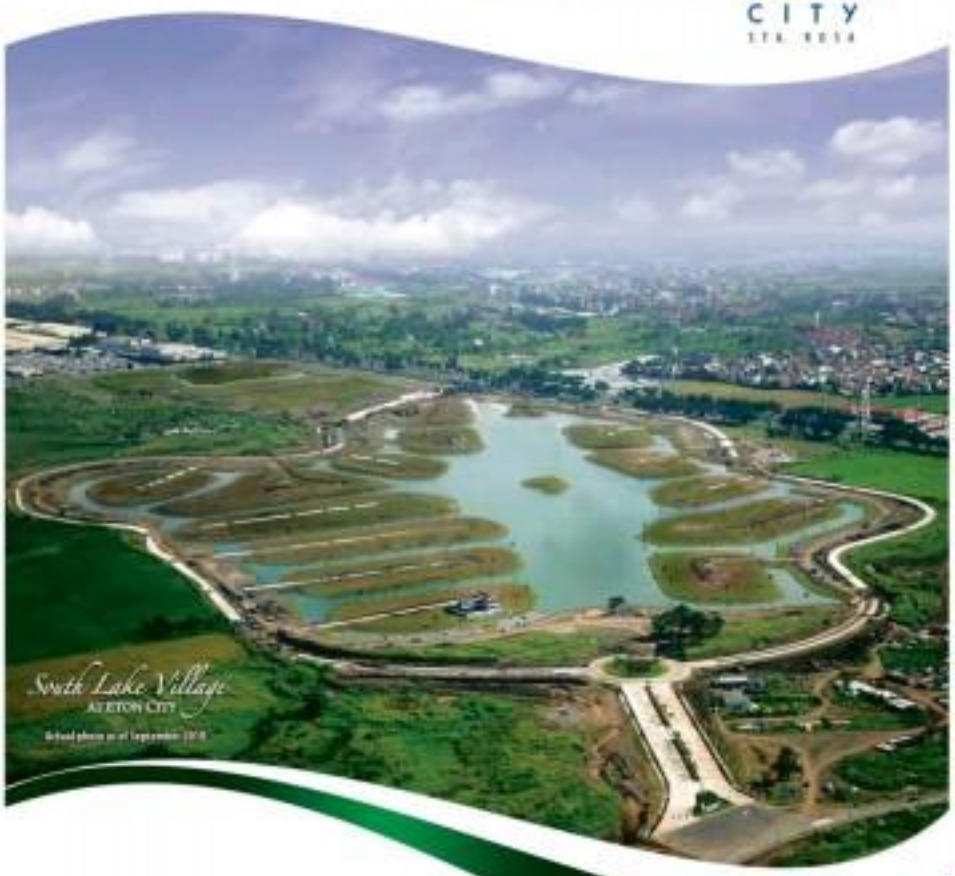
The huge increase was mainly due to the issuance of retail treasury bonds for overseas Filipinos worth ₱97.5 billion.

Also in August, the government shelled out ₱7.14 billion for payment of foreign loans, slightly higher than the ₱7.06 billion paid last year.

At the same time, the government paid ₱98.51 billion in domestic obligations, 37.5 percent higher than the ₱28 billion settled a year ago.

ETON CITY
STA. ROSA

Witness a city
taking shape...



Taking inspiration from next-generation lakeside cities only found abroad, ETON PROPERTIES introduces one of the biggest and most ambitious developments in the country—ETON CITY.

A never before seen development south of Manila, it is carefully master planned to lavish you with a complete city lifestyle in a nature rich, suburban setting.

Eton City cradles South Lake Village, the first residential island lot development in the Philippines. Crafted in perfection and blessed with nature's blue and green hues, this high end residential enclave is comprised of 18 distinct islands surrounded by a sapphire 35-hectare man-made lake.

Truly a proud product of nature, technology and modern engineering, ETON CITY raises the bar in world-class living.

OPEN HOUSE
Family Fun Weekend

September 25, 2010 - Saturday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Eton City Sales Pavilion, Sta. Rosa, Laguna

ETON

(049) 576-0321
(02) 794-3618 • (02) 856-7143
www.etoncity.com.ph

Lito Thelma Simon San Juan

LIFESTYLE Food

BINUKADKAD ni Pepito

IBA Mori Ramilon

PHOTOGRAPHS Boogie

Tasting 50 pasta dishes a day?

By Jay Rojas
Contributor

WHAT IS IT about Triple V restaurant that makes it a thriving business even after the Subic Bravolet crisis in 1997 or in the height of the Asia-wide Asian and South Beach diet craze?

"I think Filipinos just like to celebrate. And people who come to us really love to eat," says Aurea Narvasa, executive vice president of Flexfoods Food Service, Inc., of the heritage of dinner who feels is their leading branches in SM Megamall 2nd (606-2788), Glorietta 3 (ML 992-8690), Eton, Subic Bravo (ML 686-1734), and Vista Avenue (ML 413-0890).

Regular patrons of the establishment known for popularizing the ultimate one-all-you-can dining experience through its Banquets, Bulaks and Dulo buffets now have more reasons to rejoice, as it has unlimited array of Filipino, continental and Japanese cuisine viewers enough, they added 50 new dishes.

Ramayon's wishes, for starters, has dripping sa cocoa beef (homemade dumbo cooked beef and veggies in rose broth), binatbatan na pinalong (slow cooked beef, pineapple fillet in turmeric sauce), barbecued lubog (pork sauce, flaked shrimp and fish, shrimp paste) and chili wrapped in rose leaves), and bagoo salad (crispy beans, dried onions and fresh tomato tossed in lemon dressing).

Other mouth-watering treats include the morning favorite (Cookies Tongue, fillet sautéed in ginger, garlic, onion leek, and cotton sauce), the Pinoy cocktails (creamed egg plant, diced fruit, tomatoes, onion and salted fish tossed in lemon dressing), and the intriguing *Pinakbetang Manok* (marinated chicken legs sheltered into a sugarcane stalk, deep-fried and glazed with sugarcane juice).

Each diner offerings include Asian Buffalo wings (baked and battered chicken wings spiced up with beer and other Asian spices), Sandaki kebab (skewered skewered battered seafood and vegetables basted with olive oil, oregano, and tomato paste), Seafo kebab (battered grated ground beef with Indian spices and yogurt garlic sauce), *rabo de nuerva* (stewed oxtail in green olives, olive oil, garlic, and sweet pimientos), *inun kuray* (sliced chicken flaked honey cured chicken marinated with garlic and rosemary), and Dalo quesadilla BBQ (Distilled marinated pork quesadilla basted with Dalo special barbecue sauce).

As for fans of baked, Japanese fusions will find new favorites in the Inari vegetable *futo* (breaded pork loin with veggies and cheese), the inari rainbow (breaded squid stuffed with placenta banana, cheese and egg strands), rolled in dried seaweed), seafood bacon maki (broiled seafood rolled in bacon), *Iyori* chicken kimchi (Japanese cucumber and native radish with creamy chili tomato), *katsu* bayo (molded salmon, tuna, seafoods, and squid), and pool *tamahoki* maki (asparagus, cucumber, cream, radish, and *Ishi* roes rolled in marinated rice paper).

Legalists of the always-in-demand eN' longsis have a reason to smile, as well, as a way of marking its 32nd anniversary last Aug. 30, Triple V treats diners to all its branches to a one-day only, eat-all-you-can all banquet fest. Enjoy horseshoes servings of beef tea, miso soup, rice, and shrimp tempura—a steal of a meal at P326.

If the thought of downing twenty-some-odd pieces of dry-cooked dumplings or rice in disgust, consider this according to Narvasa, the crowd for most eN' tempura eaten in one sitting belongs to a customer who finished a whopping 122!

And if you're a sweet tooth, a new-age version should satisfy any sugar cravings, as will other desserts that debuted recently, like the refined cream cupcake chocolate shell in Dulo, and lemongrass cookie ball mousse cream.

Scrumptious dishes at incredibly affordable prices (P645 to the Ultimate Buffet, P360 for Kamayan-style eating, and P695 if you want to feast only on fabulous food) explain Triple V's tireless drive to experiment, some of whose have been known to wait for years in the restaurant's fabled Arcanum cookie room at late at 9 p.m. Indeed, the most seasoned of the three buffets, especially given diners more bang for their buck.

"**You the price you're paying, I'd say you have pretty good Japanese food,**" says Narvasa. "But foreign are inside the names, it's colorful and the taste and ambiance just keep on coming. I'd say we have the best in terms of freshness and quality."

How dollar aside it is Triple V's generous buffet spread, reveals the BSP are a result of equal parts experimentation and research—and a truly nutritious process. Around 30 to 40 food suggestions are thrown in, three rejected dozens, then that make the cut are kitchen-tested, taught to the chefs, and tried by

INTM Vegetable Futsi

The rigorous tests that go behind the most successful buffet in town, and the 50 new dishes added

Sinigang na Corned Beef

HOMEMADE CRUNCHY corned beef and vegetable in rose broth

Ingredients:
2 kilo beef brisket cut into two-inch cubes
1 tbsp pickle salt
50 g garlic minced
2 tbsp rock salt
6 tbsp white sugar
200 g onions
200 g carrots
24 Sugar Eggs
2 tbsp cracked salt
50 g marinated
1/4 kg pechay tsina
200 g labanos
350 g talong
12 pcs okra
1 kilo alaw
1 tsp kangkong
5 g siling haba

1. Marinate cubed beef brisket with all the ingredients overnight.
2. Pressure-cook marinated beef until it becomes soft and tender.
3. In a stock pot, boil rice wash, tomato and garlic tomato.
4. Then add beef and labanos
5. Season with salt, cover and sinigang mix.
6. Then add okra, okra, kangkong, siling sigang, boiled on til vegetables are half-cooked.

HENRYSISON
CULINARY SCHOOL
We'd Love To Make Your Christmas More Special
The Essentials Series
THE ESSENTIAL BAKING & PASTRY SERIES
THE ESSENTIAL COOKING SERIES
The Lifestyle Classes
Check Out Our Smaller Class Schedules
Get a chance to own a Philip Stein watch by earning more BDO Rewards points!
A total of 40 Philip Stein watches will be given away every month from July to September 2010.
We find ways

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

K-GPPH BY JEFF MEDINA

PUGAD BABOY BY PIN LUCIDO

DICK TRACY

LOVEHOPS BY ELIZABETH HOPKINS

JAMES BOND

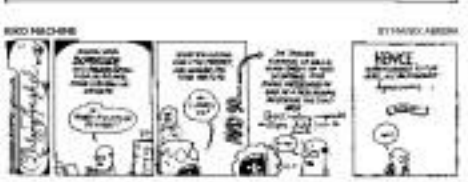
DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVE MAHLAVA

BABY BLUES BY JERRI SCOTT

TULDOK BY YNIRA COLL

BEN BY DANIEL D'HILTCH

BIRD MACHINE BY MARC ARON



SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

HOROSCOPE BY FRANCESCA LEE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You feel pulled between the demands of others and your own needs and wants today. Remember that you have to take it for the Team to stay in the game. Don't let your teammates down.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your competitive instincts will work to your advantage today. Don't be afraid to take risks. Bold moves are appreciated by those who matter.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Heavy workloads can make you feel overwhelmed. Don't be afraid to ask your colleagues for help. You'll be surprised at how much they're willing to do for you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You feel pulled between the demands of your job and your personal needs. Don't let the opinions of your co-workers get to you. You cannot satisfy both. (Anyone here familiar?)

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) This is an excellent time for introspection. Don't let others distract you from your goals. Remember that you're the only one who can make you happy. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Some of your colleagues may be envious of your success. Don't let their petty jealousies get to you. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your creative talents will be appreciated by your boss. Don't hesitate to make suggestions. Your ideas could lead to a promotion. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't let petty gossip bring you down. Remember that you're the only one who can make you happy. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Surprises will attract your attention today. Don't be afraid to take risks. Bold moves are appreciated by those who matter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Recent challenges in dealing with authority figures today. Don't be afraid to make bold moves. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones. Remember, you're the only one who can make you happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Make sure to keep a low profile today. Don't be afraid to take risks. Bold moves are appreciated by those who matter. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Pride is not always a good thing. Don't be afraid to take risks. Bold moves are appreciated by those who matter. Be sure to share this thought with your loved ones. Remember, you're the only one who can make you happy.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more programs or www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

7	9	5	6	4	8	3	2	1
6	4	8	3	2	1	9	5	7
3	2	1	9	5	7	4	6	8
4	6	7	8	1	5	2	3	9
8	5	9	7	3	2	1	4	6
1	3	2	4	6	9	8	7	5
5	8	6	1	9	3	7	8	4
9	7	4	2	8	6	5	1	3
2	1	3	5	7	4	6	9	8

Conceptis Sudoku

		6				9		8
			3	8		1		
2					7		5	6
	8					4		
	3			6			7	
		1					8	
8	5		9					3
		3		5	2			
1		4				8		

Difficulty level ★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DINER. Co at Gold Coast Marina

WINE and cheese

'Dulong' in olive oil; wine and cheese pairings

How to buy live, fresh seafood

Reggie Aguirre

If TASTE Asia, SM Hypermarket Pasig, I caught up with Derek Co of Gold Coast Marine, retailer of live seafood. As we moved the market, he spoke about choosing the freshest seafood.

"Even if you buy all of them live, you can still choose the freshest seafood based on their appearance.

"Live: Fish should have clear eyes; no body rot and wounds. Shellfish should be closed. Check if they are really alive; shell shouldn't be damaged. Lob sters/crabs—shells should be intact with no damages; feet must be complete.

"Freshly Fish eyes must be clear; gills must be red with no foul odor. Lobsters' tail must is—must around joints must be white in color. For fresh fish meat, the piece of meat showing between the head and body must be clear. If it has turned white, it is still fresh, unless it is gray or black, this is no longer good. Squid—body must be firm, pigmented skin must be shiny not torn, head must be intact and not falling off, eyes should be clear. Shrimps...head firmly attached, color must be orange, shell should be firm, intact, no bad odor."

'Sashi' recipe

Here's a recipe I like doing with their live jumbo sashi:

½ kg live sashi
2 cumbi
1 cruda
Pinch live sashi

Marinate in mirin and sake for 10 minutes; remove shrimps.

Bring marinade to a boil for five minutes before adding shrimps. Cook for exactly one minute.

Remove shrimps.

In a bowl, mix ½ cup salt, 3 tbsp mirin, 1 tbsp sake, 2 tsp sugar, 1 tbsp light soy sauce, 1 tsp sesame oil, 1-2 tsp wasabi paste, 1 tsp rice vinegar. Season to taste.

Add shrimps and toss. Leave to marinate for 30 minutes to an hour, tossing every 10 minutes or so often.

To serve, garnish with coriander leaves.

If you need live seafood for pickup, call Derek Co at 0917-6520410. If you want them cooked *dampa-style* (*sapsa sarap*), Joel Lejarcas 0927-7080710 can take your orders. All you have to do is pick it up.

I couldn't resist the fresh dulong in lily *pomodori*, the freshest I've ever seen. Pick it, I made cinigang and dulong in olive oil.

Sinigang: Gamit ang sarap sa tamang sarap

Sour taste (guest, use tsek with one large unsliced red onion in 2 tbsp olive oil. Cook until translucent are soft. Add 4 c water, one fresh *pepe* sensitive (Italian pepper), Dicon Siroco). Bring to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes. Add ½ kg dulong, cook for 5 minutes. Put off fire. Season with patis and pepper. Finish with fresh calamansi spray and juice from one lemon.

Dulong in olive oil: In a pan, heat 1/2 c extra virgin olive oil, add 4 tbsp chopped garlic, two diced chilies. Cook until garlic turns golden, add 500 g fresh dulong. If you wish, add more chilies, salt, sweet, mild and pepper. Serve with crackers or French bread, with lemon wedges.

Now you can store their big fish section filled with Pokemon's catch of the day, frozen or fresh? According to section chief Homer Ngo: "Tell us how you want your fish and we'll prepare it according to your specifications." If you fancy the belly portion or just a slice, buy this. *Pwedeng ang ibig sabihin* that fancy deep-sea fish, this section is for you.

Wine and cheese basics

There is more to wine and cheese pairing than dining combos classes, arranging them on a board and serving them with any wine.

Kelly Sinico of Beringer Caliborne Wines and Tubby Castillo of Embong Enterprises Cheeses were present to discuss the basics of pairing wine with cheese.

Put your mind partly into this as guide:

Choices that go best with wines

Fresh cream—Pecorino Blanc, Blanc-de-pone, Riccota, Fresh Mozzarella, Brie, etc.

Light Fruity—Riesling, Gewurztraminer, Chenin Blanc, Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay

Fruity light, low tannin red—Pinot, Beaujolais, Pinot Noir, Light Chianti, Sangiovese, Dolcetto, Merlot, Shiraz

Young, Juicy—Fresh Chevre, Monterchet, Neufchatel, Fresh Decorrise, etc.

Light crisp whites—Pinot Grigio, Champagne, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Chablis, Chardonnay

Fruity light, low tannin red—Pinot, Beaujolais, Pinot Noir, Unfinished, Sangiovese, Dolcetto, Merlot, Shiraz

Hard rennable rinse and bloom category

Fresh, tangy, salty—Young cheddar, Emmenthal, Fontina etc.

Soft Rine—Cambozola, Saga Blue, Gorgonzola, Bleu, Bleu Castello—ete.,

Triple cream...Brillatte-Savarin, St. Andre, etc...

Blanc whites...Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc, Gewurztraminer, Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay

Most reds—Rosé, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Zinfandel, Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon

Aged nutty cheeses

Parmesan, Asiago, Dry Jack, Aged Sharp Cheddar

Rich Smoked—Brie, Nevatea Balsac Blackberry, Sweet Sherry, Port, Muscat, Riesling, Ice Sauvignon, Ice Wine, Tokaji, Dry Amontillo, Rachels

Source: Jeremy Compton, The Progressive Wine and Cheese Wheel, Beringer Blass Wine Estates

Get a copy of my holiday cooking ideas schedules. Call 0917-5345980/0908-2372294/4456505/5265268.

E-mail the author at reggie@inquirer.com.ph.

CENTER FOR ASIAN CULINARY STUDIES
#19 P. Guevara St. San Juan City, Philippines, 1500
Tel. Nos. 726-9326 / 725-5889
www.casaschef.com Email: casa@casaschef.com

OCTOBER 2010

OCT 2 SAT – Pumpkin Carving Demo: Get some real entertaining cooking ideas from Chef Jessie Sincioco! Let the expert demonstrate the secrets of Shaboom! Shiny, Smooth Fondant Icing and Those Perfect Sharp and Distinguished Royal Piping. Bookmark and Thank Yang.

Tuna, cheese, beef quesadillas

CHEF FLORABEL CO opens a new concept restaurant, serving primarily American comfort food. Sweet Pea's Bar-quesadillas comes in four choices: Bangus-tuna, cheese & pepper & spinach. Tacos & appetizers: pork beef & mushroom. Dip quesadillas in guacamole, sour cream or salsa to add a little zing. Visit Sweet Pea at the G/F of The Venice Piazza, McKinley Hill, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City (886-4883).

Lengua estofado

Restoran Center, a branch opened proud of Filipino Culinary Inc. in Pasay, Mabuhay, Mandaluyo City boasts of exotic Bali offer Spanish dishes. Cafe also which offers Tacos, Lengua Estofado, Garudas at Alpha and Pradesha Lengua, Mario's has fatigue removed steak ala'1 Pinapaltilan proffers Calamari for P150, Sambal at Aplicity P180, and Bistek encore at Alfie for P95.

Calios, Pasta Negra, Mechinea, Albondons, Negra de Pollo, Cafe Alba at Bo's Jamon Iberico, Tinggorgos Mexicano, Cocktails Asada.

Sesame-crusted sugpo

Teriyaki Boy has made the Japanese-Asian-Brazilian with their new Lava Salt Cafe Adriatico. Its new six-salt platter Sizzle-ato features Crusted Sesame Maguro for P150, Baked Bilayo-k Sushi for P120.

Dining Out

Seafood galore

Rob Dee of Yanyan proffers seafood dishes by Reef Cove. The cafe is located at the first floor of Greenbelt 3, Makati City, tel. 729-3850.

Corn dogs, mac & cheese

Pancake House offers Kids' Menu which includes Crispy Dory—crispy cooked with pats of garlic butter and vegetable dip on the side; corn dogs and mac and cheese, total corn dogs with French fries and Rainbow dressing; crispy deep-fried chicken tenders with gravy served with vegetable fritters; crispy deep-fried cream dory fillets with Rainbow dressing served with mall potatoes. Visit any of the 80 Pancake House restaurants nationwide, such as Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Magnolia, Robinsons Ermita, Robinsons Place Manila, Robinsons Malate, Robinsons Midtown, Robinsons Magnolia, Robinsons Ortigas, Robinsons Galleria

ENTERTAINMENT

Lira Soriano-G. Velarde

Mobile Alert: Text REG DESCRIBE to 2467 | Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment | E-mail: entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Send us your feedback: inquirer.net/messageforthemanager or 896-6000

Back to the barricades

AT 1 WRITE, I'm in an altitude of 37,000 feet, and somewhere between Dubai and England. My travels today will land me in London, where, tomorrow, I begin celebrating for the "Les Misérables: 25th Anniversary Concert" taking place Oct. 3 at the O2 Arena.

I'm on a Qatar Airways flight (very surprised to find that there are quite a few OFWs/pinoy flight attendants and ground staff), and playing with my photo's SMS/e-mail/interview. I can send a text message to any mobile number in the world, or an e-mail to any address while in flight! To give it a spin, I sent a couple of texts to my husband and to a Cameroon Sharks soccer production administrator.

(Yes, I've obviously digressed.)

Needless to say, I'm extremely excited. Like a kid anticipating the first day of school, I can't wait to start rehearsing. Our company manager e-mailed earlier to let me know that my score and [Everyone Can Be Saving] when I arrived. Since that is "Les MIs," I didn't need to bring dance shoes or dancer clothes, just a bunch of T-shirts, jeans and two pairs of sneakers.

My rehearsal schedule has me starting bright and early with musical director Stephen Brooker and conductor David Charles Abell (who mentored the lucky Les Mis's 10th Anniversary!). Routine lasts all of 25 minutes, unabridged, given that this is a concert. I'm expecting cuts here and there. My music rehearsal could last for about an hour, after which I start on staging with a few others in the company (many of whom I've never met).

I have no idea about the concert format. Will it be similar to the 10th anniversary, or something like the staged concert version at the Hollywood Bowl

BACK TO

BACK STORY

Lira Soriano

REGINE Velazquez and Ogie Alcasid

Ogie's 3 groomsmen: Janno, Bitoy, P-Noy

By Marinel R. Cruz

PRESIDENT Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III will be one of singer-songwriter Ogie Alcasid's groomsmen when he ties the knot with longtime girlfriend Regine Velasquez in December.

The two other groomsmen are Ogie's best friends Michael V and Janno Gibbs.

The groom, however, is tight-lipped about the date and venue of the wedding. "Regine and I have agreed to keep it a secret so that the place wouldn't get too crowded," Ogie told Inquirer Entertainment on Monday. "It's our time that we'd like to experience a semblance of privacy."

Songs galore

Ogie and Regine broke the news of their wedding plans in the Sunday morning show "Pare Ko Pilipinas" last August.

The couple has asked close friends in the business to perform some of the love songs Ogie has written.

Gary Valenciano will sing "Kailangan Kita" and Lea Salonga, "Pangarap Ko ang Ibigin Ka." Ogie said he also wants Ayo B. and Ayda, his "Daisy Pilipinas" co-hosts, to sing "Tanggapin Ngayon" during the ceremony, and Janno and Jaya featuring the Ryan Cayabyab-original "Sana Laman."

"Martin [Nievera] said he wasn't sure if he'd be in town on the day, but he's agreed to sing 'Hane ang Hiling Pangarap,' which I wrote as the theme of 'Lolo,'" Ogie said. "I've also asked Arthur Huang to sing. He's one of my favorites. Bing and I like old music, like 'You Don't Know Me,' 'It Had to Be You,' 'All of Me.' Arthur has the force even those of all those songs."

Looking forward

When Ogie's petition for the annulment of his marriage in 1994 Miss Australia Michelle van Reenen was granted, he announced that he was looking forward to a lifetime with Regine. Ogie's two daughters by Michelle, Leslie and Sarah, live in Australia with their mother.

"Regine and I consider this more than a blessing," said Ogie, who admitted that there was a time he thought the wedding wouldn't happen at all. "I believe the universe [that] there was a part of me that said, 'Sige na nga, dasal-dasalan ako [ang] si Regine.'"

Sarah, 7, will be the flower girl and Lolo, 12, will be one of the bridesmaids, Ogie said. Michelle, who runs a flowers shop business in Australia, will take care of the floral arrangements.

Regine will wear a gown by international fashion designer Monique Lhuillier and Ogie's suit will be by Randy Ortiz.

"I really like to wear a suit, pero ma pogi kasi ako," Ogie said. "I have nothing against the boxing Tagalog. I know that

MORE ON P2

Biggest deal ever

"LET US first ask if he is willing to talk about it," Willie Revillame's manager, Vic del Rosario, told Inquirer on Tuesday.

He had asked about the rumor which, if proven to be true, would have Willie taking the biggest deal ever to hand about Mr. Del Rosario and Dr. Yeo did not confirm or deny the report.

The controversial TV host will reportedly receive P4.5 billion in three years from his contract with TV5, which he is set to host a game show, "Willing Willie," and a talent search, "Born To Be a Star."

WILLIE Revillame

Another report said he'll get P71 million a month, inclusive of his staff's salaries. Marinel R. Cruz

Italians bash 'Eat Pray Love'

ROME—Italian newspapers greeted Julia Roberts' latest film, "Eat Pray Love," with scorn when it opened here this week.

The movie, based on Elizabeth Gilbert's best-selling memoir of a globe-trotting quest for [illegible] Roberts' character to Italy, India and Indonesia.

The section in Italy, where the actress grins, gazes and she wants Latin soup of life, left most critics fuming. "It ruins spaghetti, the Italians are always proselytizing and following foreign gibe-hunting vulgarities," La Repubblica's critic Curzio Maltese wrote.

The Turin daily La Stampa declared the film, directed by Ryan Murphy as "kitsch." It [illegible] could is now offended by Roberts' Spanish costar Javier Bardem's role.

"Watching the glorious Bardem playing the Latin lover in a film like this really hurts," it said.

REUTERS

Two hairdressers fight over an iPod

A pair of employees at a hair salon in Quezon City played tug-of-war with each other's hair to see who can get a free iPod. According to salon customers, the owner of the shop offered 900 Globe points as a prize to the winner. The two hairdressers needed the points to get an iPod from My Rewards, My Globe.

With a variety of gadgets, handsets, free passes and more to choose from, collecting points has never been this exciting. No wonder more and more people want to get points faster.

Now, getting those points you need is made even easier! Just ask your family or friends to text SHARE <space> your 10-digit cell number <space> the number of points they'll share with you and send to 4438.

By asking for points, you can get that new gadget you've always wanted, free gift certificates, or passes to theme parks or cinemas. The sooner you get the points, the faster you get the rewards from My Rewards, My Globe and TM Auto Rewards.

So ask, beg, do antics or just keep loading for more points!

You can also call 730-1000 or visit www.globe.com.ph/rewards to find out more details.

Or you can challenge any of your friends to an arm-wrestling contest next time in exchange for more points!

citibank

Priceless moments.

Powered by Citi.

Win back your purchase or win your dream holiday with Citi MasterCard's Priceless Moments raffle. Just use your Citi MasterCard anytime, anywhere worldwide. The more you spend, the more chances you have to live that priceless moment.

No Citi Card yet? Apply now. Text Citi Card to 2800.

visit: www.smcinema.com

SM CINEMA

ONLINE PROMO!

Visit www.smcinema.com
Answer the "WALL STREET"
trivia question and get a chance to win
"WALL STREET" Premiere Items

Showing at
SM CINEMA
SEPTEMBER 29

IMAX

SM MALL OF ASIA | SM NORTH EDSA | SM CEBU

RESIDENT EVIL 4

metro manila

SM NORTH EDSA

SM MALL OF ASIA

SM MEGAMALL

SM CITY MANILA

SM CITY SAN LAZARO

SM CITY STA. MESA

SM MUNTINLUPA

SM CITY SUCAT

SM CITY BICUTAN

SM SOUTHMALL

SM CITY DASMARIÑAS

SM CITY BACOOR

SM CITY SAN PEDRO

SM CITY BACOLOD

SM CITY BAGUIO

SM CITY DAGUPAN

SM CITY CLARK

SM CITY SAN FERNANDO

SM CITY LUCENA

SM CITY BATANGAS

SM CITY STA. ROSA

SM CITY MARILAO

SM CITY EASTWOOD

SM CITY BACOLOD

SM CITY BAGUIO

SM CITY DAGUPAN

SM CITY CLARK

SM CITY SAN FERNANDO

SM CITY LUCENA

SM CITY BATANGAS

SM CITY STA. ROSA

SM CITY MARILAO

SM CITY EASTWOOD

SM CITY BACOLOD

SM CITY BAGUIO

SM CITY DAGUPAN

SM CITY CLARK

SM CITY SAN FERNANDO

SM CITY LUCENA

SM CITY BATANGAS

SM CITY STA. ROSA

SM CITY MARILAO

SM CITY EASTWOOD

luzon

SM CITY SAN PEDRO

SM CITY BACOOR

SM CITY CLARK

SM CITY DAGUPAN

SM CITY BAGUIO

SM CITY BACOLOD

SM CITY SAN FERNANDO

SM CITY LUCENA

SM CITY BATANGAS

SM CITY STA. ROSA

SM CITY MARILAO

SM CITY EASTWOOD

visayas + mindanao

SM CITY CEBU

SM CITY CEBU

SM CITY DAVAO

SM CITY DAVAO

SM CITY BACOLOD

SM CITY BACOLOD

LEGEND:

TICKETS

HOTLINE: 470.22.22 / WEBSITE: www.smtickets.com
Ticketing at any SM Cinema Ticket booths nationwide

PRICES EFFECTIVE	DAYS IN FREE	HOURS
Friday (1st show)	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Saturday	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Sunday (1st show)	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Sunday (2nd show)	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Monday	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Tuesday	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Wednesday	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters
Thursday	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mall Theaters

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED IN ALL SM CINEMA BRANCHES

OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF FOOD AND DRINKS
AT ALL SM CINEMA LOBBIES

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

Like us in

GALLERIA

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE	8 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 DESPICABLE ME	7 AFTER LIFE
3 THE EXPENDABLES	6 NOVE BOYS
4 GOING THE DISTANCE	5 DEVIL
5 SA'YO LAMANG	10 BULL

MANILA

1 AFTER LIFE	1 SA'YO LAMANG
2 DEVIL	2 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
3 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)	3 GOING THE DISTANCE
4 SA'YO LAMANG	4 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
5 DESPICABLE ME	5 DESPICABLE ME
6 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE	6 AFTER LIFE
7 GOING THE DISTANCE	7 DEVIL
	8 THE LAST EXORCISM

METRO EAST

NOVALICHES

1 AFTER LIFE
2 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
3 PLAYBACK @ (9: 11) LESSON
4 DEVIL

FORUM ROBINSONS

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 PHOBIA 2
3 AFTER LIFE
4 DEVIL

Watch this movie in
in Movieworld's
DIGITAL 3D CINEMAS

Galleria + Manila + Forum
Metro East + Sta. Rosa + Cipa
Imarpelli, Pampanga + Bacolod
Iloilo + Gensan

OPENS TOMORROW

MOVIEWORLD

STA. ROSA

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 AN AMERICAN VIRGIN
3 GHOST HOUSE
4 VALAK

CIPA

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 SA'YO LAMANG
3 AN AMERICAN VIRGIN
4 SPLICE

DASMARIÑAS

1 SA'YO LAMANG
2 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
3 SPLICE
4 GOING THE DISTANCE

STARMILLS

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
3 THE EXPENDABLES
4 SA'YO LAMANG
5 VAMPIRE SUCKS
6 DESPICABLE ME

IMUS

1 GOING THE DISTANCE
2 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
3 SA'YO LAMANG
4 MILI

ANGELES

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
2 PHOBIA 2
3 FEKKER
4 VAMPIRE SUCKS

TACLOBAN

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
2 SP MAK 2
3 GOING THE DISTANCE

DUMAGUETE

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
2 THE EXPENDABLES
3 GOING THE DISTANCE

BACOLOD

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 SA'YO LAMANG
3 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
4 VAMPIRE SUCKS
5 KILLERS
6 THE EXPENDABLES

ILOILO

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 GOING THE DISTANCE
3 DAG SPIRITS
4 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
5 SA'YO LAMANG
6 THE LAST EXORCISM

GENSAN

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE (Digital 3D)
2 SA'YO LAMANG
3 DESPICABLE ME
4 AN AMERICAN VIRGIN

ILOCOS NORTE

1 RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE
2 THE EXPENDABLES
3 GOING THE DISTANCE

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

Back to the barricades

From page C1

and two long ago, or as full-blown as the brand-new touring production, or the long-running Queen's Theatre staging? Whatever happens, it should be interesting.

Last weekend, before flying out, I was in for a treat by two of our best actresses: **Joanna Ampil** and **Rachel Alejandro**.

West End Girl

Joanna's concert at Dolfuge in Greenhills was attended by many musical theatre aficionados and friends, and she did not disappoint. Looking beautiful in her *Je Boudoir* gown, her long backless dress showcasing each, she breezed many gems in the 90-minute set...from musical theatre (note thrilling were "All I Ask of You" from "Phantom," "Mr. White Tie Sensual" from "Sweeney Todd," "Getting Married" from "Wicked," and "I'd Give My Life for You" from "Miss Saigon"), 80s R&B ("Holding" and "Let's Hear It for the Boy" were especially delightful), and 70s ballads (The Carpenters' "Goodbye to Love" and "Close Your Eyes").

I'd have loved to hear her sing even more musical theatre which is where her voice shines and affords the most, but the repertoire that she and musical director **Gerrard Salvosa** picked together displayed her versatility and spectacular vocal range. Her special guest, **Ariel Rivera**, elicited screams from the female fans, four each included Mahalaking pa rin siya. The two have been incredibly kind to him; he's one of our most handsome actor/singers ever.

I hope this won't be the last time that Joanna, the beautiful, soulful diaphragm-powering girl, or home she owns. Bravo!

JOANNA Ampil and RACHEL Alejandro

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARIEL RIVERA

'Karaoke'

I never saw the iconic that starred Olivia Newton-John, but I do remember a couple of songs from it: "Grease" and "Suddenly." Hearing them Sunday night at the musically-fluid performance was my back to the age of hair spray and shoulder pads. "Grease," directed by **Bobby Garcia**, was a fun romp, and he wouldn't have picked a better Cha-Cha than **Rachel Alejandro**. I have to say she had great moves, Hmmm.

She excelled at everything she did—whether singing to roller skates, riding on a lower detail, or speaking in a pseudo-Aussie accent. She looked and sounded wonderful and was funny as heck. Billy Ray-ish Jonny Melosic was a right for sure (even in the theater that's short shorts and tank top. More impressive than his fudging lumps though is his vocal that blended perfectly with the lads.

The whole cast was great, but musical director **Chard Antipuesto** kept it in **Third Alan-Menken** on the evil meter, and **Noel Trinidad**, making his return to the musical theater stage at Dinah Shore's Dolfuge.

Congratulations to everyone! I'll definitely be back extra my seven glow sticks for the box. 19 to Dec. 5 repeat.

Ogie's 3 groomsmen...

From page C1

Regine's gown is (something special). If I were a betting I'd probably look like her secretary. We don't want that to happen. I want to be as elegant as she is. The men in the entourage will also wear suits. Other guests are encouraged to wear pastel colors.

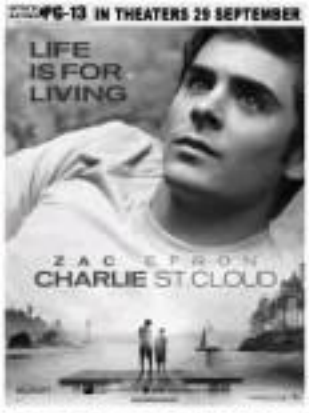
Gotta be hot

"I'm thinking of getting an acid [episode in host] of the post-nuptial fling... party... or maybe that's SNAKES on a plane. Also, I want the event to be fun. We're going to have everything taken by our photographers. My Tito wedding [with Michelle] or the Swallow de Son Martin de Tours in Tinsel, Batangas] was one of the best wedding I've been there. The menu category served at handling big events."

The couple has listed about eight pairs of principal sponsors. Michelin and Jaypeetex (Jaddess Nilsen) Heraphone and Vicki Belo; Felipe Gozon and Lily Monteverde; Sy Bet Sesante and Wilma Galvante; Toni Tesoro and Sharon Cuneta; Sesante and Vilo Hermes; Pauldin Santos and Elsie Pil-lamor; and Jose Mario Chan and Grace Ponce.

"This wedding is so blessed because a lot of people united to be part of it. I'm talking about people who went to get Regine to go For Sure, which I don't mind," said Ogie. "There are people we've encountered in life and ethics we had good relationships with. Any sense of feeling I guess they all want to with myself, knowing what we went through to get where we are now."

E-mail *ogie@inquirer.com.ph*



Hot hunks!

MATTEO GUIDICELLI, Sam Milby and Daniel Matsunaga were three of the hot hunks who took the catwalk during the 20th Cosmopolitan Bachelor Bash held Sept. 9 at World Trade Center in Pasay City.

The pack included Pablo Ide, Jerrea Gamboa, Chris Ian Bautista, Rissa Cayetano of Culinarity, Sam Gaviguel of Sexylicious, Primo Medina, Ramon Geaiter, Carlo Aquino, Jea B., Luis Manzly and JC Parrenas.

The show presented by Cosmopolitan magazine was emceed by Issy Mozel and directed by Ryo Quintero.

A mother's most precious legacy

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HEAT SWELL melodramas tackle what happens to a marriage when the husband starts to stray. Lauice Guillen's new film, "Sa Yo Lamang," takes a different route by showing what happens after all that, when the faithless husband (Christopher de Leon) finally decides to return to his family.

The decision is tough on him, for his act of desertion has taken a much greater toll on his wife (Cherie Gil) — on her and children (Bea Alonzo, Richard Yap, Geo Martin, etc.) — especially on their first child, Bea, who has had to put her dreams on hold to help her mother rear her siblings.

Small wonder then, that when Bea Lauren's character decides to welcome her prodigal father back into her life, and her lives, with open arms for him knows no bounds.

But all things aren't quite so cookie-going, as their absent father's behavior at times drives a wedge into their once-loving relationship, proving that broken families can't remain whole in some ways, even after reconciliation have been made.

For those and other cautionary yet also potentially healing insights, we are grateful to Guillen for productively turning the traditional family drama on its ear — prompting viewers to empathetically realize how much more pleated the predicament of the broken family is than previously realized.

In addition, Guillen has mustered some of his best skills between cuts and film, to come up with their best and most unrestrained performances yet. Gil is that further illuminates the complex and emotionally tearing issues involved when families are rendered.

On the whole side, the film movement to his skills of deliberate cuts, explanations, and some corollary developments, and thus loses some of the form it must have to truly clarify the issues it raises. The movie comes into feels like a long and overstuffed subplot-compressed into the time-slot of Maalaala Mo Kaya.

This plentitude of "highlights" makes some events feel redundant. For instance, after Lorna again experiences dissection by her faithless spouse, she has a long and moving breakdown at once — which, however, loses some of its force when it's followed by another scene in which it's Bea who does the eavesdropping, for similarly close reasons of her own.

Other events add to the emotional muddle pace: Bea's former love returns, conspicuously missing the chance to woo romance. Gang gets a girl pregnant. Bea being is caught cheating in an exam. And, in a scene that chooses every one for a loop, Lorna herself eventually reveals her own guilty secret.

This last twist in the storytelling is at least the most welcome because it shows that "guilt" weighs heavily not only on the patently "guilty," but to some degree on everyone.

Another major contribution the movie makes is its emphasis on the importance of faith in the broken Filipino family. The healing process is having shown that it isn't only Christopher's character who has proven himself to be faithless, the film proceeds to dramatize a major spiritual crisis in the family that tests its faith in God even more.

In the end, the family reconstruction even this most painful of ways, thanks to the spiritual strength that their mother had left them as her most precious legacy.

It's great that, despite the woeful soul-sickness of the times, filmmaker Guillen has made it a point to remind us of the relevance of spirituality in our daily lives — as her own cinematic gift.

DID YOU KNOW...

The fallout

ABS-CBN execs are in a quandary regarding its boss interview on the alleged Rufa Rufa wedding of Robin Padilla and Mariel Rodriguez which has since been denied by the groom.

His relatives have also claimed it was "an engagement, not a wedding ceremony," according to a "TV Patrol" report.

Padilla, it was said, had been choosing a documentary on his life, and the Baguio footage was part of the project.

In a press con on Saturday, Padilla confirmed that much, saying that the ceremony was "part of a program" but that he couldn't give details because of his "contractual agreement" to the network. He also said he planned to make a movie with Bedigner.

Okay, so was it just for real?

The network's Corporate Communications division explained: "It is all about their personal relationship."

In another "TV Patrol" report on Monday, Marcia Bautista, barangay captain of Camp 7 and one of the witnesses at the Padilla ceremony, said the couple would be declared persona non grata if they participated in denying the marriage.

Reality bites.